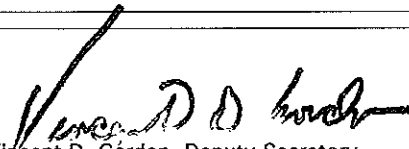




<b>ISSUE DATE</b> February 13, 2012	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> January 26, 2012	<b>NUMBER</b> ADAP - 12 - 01
<b>SUBJECT</b> Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP) – 2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines for SP1 Card Holders	<b>BY</b>  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify providers of the 2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines that the Department of Public Welfare (Department) will use to determine income eligibility for applicants and current enrollees in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) component of the Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP) (SP1 card holders).

**SCOPE:**

This bulletin is applicable to all providers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program who render services to persons enrolled in the ADAP component of the SPBP.

This bulletin also applies to all persons enrolled in the HIV component of the SPBP, HIV case managers, and any persons serving individuals with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS who reside in Pennsylvania.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Department issued Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin Number 08-08-23 et al, Subject: Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program - Updated Eligibility Criteria for SP1 Card Holders, effective December 5, 2008 which established income criteria for the program based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines published in the *Federal Register* by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It also informed providers that a bulletin announcing the new income amounts, resulting from those updates, would be published each year.

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COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program at: 1-800-922-9384

Email Address - [SPBP@pa.gov](mailto:SPBP@pa.gov)

Visit the Department's Website at:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/foradults/healthcaremedicalassistance/aids waiverprogram/specialpharmaceuticalbenefitsprogram>

**DISCUSSION:**

HHS published the 2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines in the *Federal Register*, effective January 26, 2012. Accordingly, the income limit for SPBP SP1 applicants and recertifying current enrollees is as follows, effective January 26, 2012:

1. **For SP1 Applicants - The annual income limit for a SP1 applicant is \$37,642.90 for an individual and \$13,345.20 for each additional family member.**
2. **For SP1 Enrollees who are actively participating and comply with all other SPBP eligibility requirements - The annual income limit is \$55,850 for an individual and \$19,800 for each additional family member.**

**PROCEDURES:**

Program eligibility will be based on the new 2012 income limits for all new applications and for ongoing eligibility for all re-enrollments, effective January 26, 2012.

The Department is in the process of updating the SPBP application form posted on the website at the address listed below. If you are still using the hard copy Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program Application, publication number MA 366 10/07, or printing out the application on the SPBP website before the form is updated, please ask the potential applicant to ignore the income limits listed on these application forms because they are out of date.

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/foradults/healthcaremedicalassistance/aids waiverprogram/specialpharmaceuticalbenefitsprogram>