

Bulletin Number: MSA 15-18

Distribution: Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) Holders

Issued: June 1, 2015

Subject: Treatment of Various Types of Veteran Pension Income for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-Related Medicaid Eligibility

Effective: July 1, 2015

Programs Affected: SSI-Related Medicaid

The Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) is being updated with current U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) information regarding the treatment of pension payments as well as family, educational and service related payments a veteran may receive. The updates include the following:

- The reference to a \$90 reduced pension in the manual is corrected to indicate that the \$90 is a higher patient allowance for a veteran in a nursing home. (A non-veteran has a \$60 patient allowance.) Note: A veteran pension is usually reduced when a veteran enters a nursing home, and the reduction is not connected to the higher patient allowance for the veteran.
- The Aid and Attendance (A&A) payment continues to be excluded in the Medicaid eligibility determination.
- A&A payments usually end when a veteran enters a nursing home. The A&A payment should be included in the Patient Pay Amount calculation until the decrease is processed by the VA.
- There are no payments for unusual medical expenses made by the VA. References to these payments have been removed.
- References to other types of payments have also been removed as they are obsolete.

This bulletin is intended to clarify policy regarding VA payments.

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information is incorporated into the Bridges Eligibility Manual (<http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/olmweb/ex/html/>).

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail be sure to include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

Approved



Stephen Fitton, Director
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