

**Bulletin Number:** MSA 11-20

**Distribution:** Bridges Eligibility Manual Holders

**Issued:** June 1, 2011

**Subject:** Medicaid Estate Recovery

**Effective:** As Stated

**Programs Affected:** SSI Related Medicaid Programs

Beginning July 1, 2011, the Michigan Department of Community Health will, under certain circumstances, attempt to recover the expenses paid on behalf of a Medicaid beneficiary from their estate. The state is required to implement the Estate Recovery Program under federal regulation 42 CFR §433.36.

Medicaid beneficiaries who receive nursing facility care, MI Choice home and community based waiver services, home health, home help, and hospital or prescription drug services on or after July 1, 2010, and after they have reached the age of 55 years, will be subject to recovery upon their death or the death of a spouse.

Funds will be recovered from the beneficiary's estate which is defined as including all property and assets which are subject to probate, with several exceptions. The state will attempt to recover the estate when the beneficiary dies, if they were single, or when the surviving spouse dies, if they had a qualifying spouse.

There is an opportunity for a Medicaid beneficiary to receive temporary hardship exemptions under certain circumstances.

### Public Comment

The public comment portion of the policy promulgation process is being conducted concurrently with the implementation of the change noted in this bulletin. Any interested party wishing to comment on the change may do so by submitting comments in writing to:

Eligibility Policy  
Michigan Department of Community Health  
Medical Services Administration  
P.O. Box 30479  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7979  
Or  
E-mail: [eligibilitypolicy@michigan.gov](mailto:eligibilitypolicy@michigan.gov)

If responding by e-mail, please include "Estate Recovery" in the subject line.

### Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information has been incorporated into the Bridges Eligibility Manual.

## Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at [ProviderSupport@michigan.gov](mailto: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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Fitton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the letter 'i' in "Fitton".

Stephen Fitton, Director  
Medical Services Administration