

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE – MAF to TMA

House Bill 11 (2005) reduced the income limits for parents/caretakers to receive healthcare coverage under the Medical Assistance for Families (MAF) program from 75% of the federal poverty level to the July 16, 1996 AFDC income standards (13CSR 40-2.375). Income information on file for your family indicates your income is above the July 16, 1996 AFDC income standards.

Your family qualifies for healthcare coverage under the Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) program. The TMA program is for families that have received MAF three of the last six months. Your family's eligibility will be changed to Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) effective July 1, 2005. The TMA program provides MC+ healthcare coverage for the family for six months following MAF ineligibility. If other requirements are met, your family may be eligible for another six months of TMA healthcare coverage.

Healthcare coverage will continue for six months from the date of MAF ineligibility (June 30, 2005) as long as you have an eligible child in your home and you reside in Missouri. To receive the additional six months, you will need to complete and return reporting forms sent to you every three months. The reports ask you to tell us the amount of your earnings and childcare expenses needed for work. The form must be signed and returned by the due date on the form. If we do not receive the report by the due date, the parents/caretaker's healthcare coverage through the TMA program will end or be suspended.

During the first six months, you can only lose your healthcare coverage if:

- You no longer have an eligible child in the home;
- You are no longer a resident of the State of Missouri; or
- We determine that you received MAF in any of the six months before closing by means of fraud.

For the second six months, there are additional reasons you might lose TMA healthcare coverage.

- Your gross income from earnings (less childcare expenses you pay) is over 185% of the federal poverty level;
- You had NO earned income in at least one month of the second or third reporting period, unless we determine the loss of employment was beyond your control; or
- You do not complete and return your report forms by the due date.

If your situation changes, you must report these changes to the local Family Support Division office. The law provides penalties for any person who receives benefits to which they are not entitled through misrepresenting the facts or not reporting full information about their situation.