

## APPENDIX B

## RSDI/SSI INCREASES 2010

This Appendix was updated to document there is no Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), nor an increase in payment amounts in **2011**. The monthly maximum Federal SSI payment levels for 2011 remain the same as 2009 levels:

Single - \$674      Couple - \$1,011

The Medicare standard premium amount is **\$115.40**; however, because there will not be a COLA in **2011**, most beneficiaries already enrolled in Part B, and whose modified adjusted gross income falls below \$85,000 for an individual, or \$170,000 for married couples, will pay less than the standard premium. **Most Medicare beneficiaries will continue to pay \$96.40 if enrolled before 2010, or \$110.50 if enrolled in 2010.**

NOTE: The COLA update process outlined below **will** not **be** completed in the year **2011**.

A. THE RSDI/SSI COLA UPDATE PROCESS

The annual COLA Mass Change occurred January 30, 2009 for most Assistance Groups (AGs) in RAPIDS that have RSDI and/or SSI entered on AFUI or Medicare enrollment on AFMD. Reports which identify individuals affected by the COLA update became available on MOBIUS February 2, 2009. Manual updates must be completed by February deadline, effective March 2009. Advance notice requirements apply.

For the automatic update to occur, the Social Security Number (SSN) in RAPIDS must match the SSN in the Social Security Administration file. In addition, the individual's RSDI and/or SSI income must have been entered on AFUI in RAPIDS. The automatic update is effective March 2009.

The automatic update does not occur if the income was entered, but end-dated prior to March 2009. It also does not occur if the begin date for RSDI and/or SSI income on AFUI is later than February 2009.

**NOTE:** The automatic update does not occur if the case is due for review. If the AG is due for a PR review, the automatic update of income and Medicare information does occur, but eligibility is not run. This prevents closure before the client has an opportunity to complete the PR review. Eligibility must be run to apply the updated income.

Two messages on the WRMC192A – Mass Change Exception Listing identify cases skipped when an AG is due for a review by PR and include:

## The Case Maintenance Process

- PR Review Due (Case has a Review Date); and
- PR Review Due (Case Has No Review Date).

For QMB, SLIMB, and QI AG's, functionality on AFUI prevents the inappropriate closure and denial of these AG's due to the COLA increase. RAPIDS uses the begin MM/YY of AFUI to determine whether to enter a COLA disregard amount on the AFUI screen for Social Security income (RSDI) using a calculation based on the percentage of the COLA increase, unless a COLA Disregard Amount other than zero is entered manually. For procedures regarding Pickle AG's see item B,9.

Any AG which becomes ineligible for a benefit because of the update will not receive that benefit after February 2009. The appropriate notice is mailed. Workers must evaluate Medicaid AG's that fail for all other coverage groups. These AG's appear on WRMC182A - Assistance Groups Affected by Mass Change, which is described in item B,3.

If the current benefit is not confirmed, and there is no previously confirmed passing benefit for the AG, the individual's information is not updated and the case is skipped by Mass Change. These AG's are shown on WRMC182U - Mass Changes Pending AG Listing.

When the SSA file indicates the customer is receiving RSDI or SSI and the amount is zero, the information in RAPIDS is not updated. This amount may not be accurate by the time of the COLA Mass Change and an error message displays this information on the COLA Match Report. The actual SSA benefit amount can be determined on SOLQ.

The WRMC 206A COLA Match Report - Match Result, contains the same information as the WRMC202A - RSDI/SSI/Medicare COLA Match Report - Last Name. On the 206A, the individuals within a Worker's caseload are sorted by match result message. On the 202A, the individuals within a Worker's caseload are sorted by last name. By using the 206A, Workers can identify particular match results which require immediate attention.

Mass Change report, WRMC216A - Post Mass Change Participation Status Report, identifies individuals whose participation status changed as a result of the Mass Change. Workers must determine if the change is valid. An example of a valid change is an ABAWD who enters a new 36-month tracking period and is added to an ongoing Food Stamp AG.

## B. REPORTS AND WORKER ACTION

Reports identifying individuals who have been affected by the COLA update became available on MOBIUS February 2, 2009. Manual updates must be completed by February deadline, effective March 2009.