

Welcome to the MULTIFAMILY HOUSING RENTAL HOUSING INTEGRITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RHIP) LISTSERV that brings you up-to-date RHIP related publications, news, information and occupancy tips in an effort to help reduce errors in rent determinations and subsidy calculations.

RHIP TIP ON CALCULATING INCOME FROM ASSETS

Did you know that when net family assets are more than \$5,000, annual income includes the greater of the following:

- a) Actual income from assets; or
- b) A percentage of the value of family assets based upon the current passbook savings rate as established by HUD. This is called imputed income from assets. The passbook rate is currently set at 2%.

For further information and examples, please refer to Paragraph 5-7F of *HUD Handbook 4350.3 REV-1 Occupancy Requirements of Subsidized Multifamily Housing Programs*.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. Changes Coming Soon for the Active Partner Performance System (APPS) Electronic Filing Requirements:

Effective on July 1, 2006, all participants required to apply for previous participation clearance must do so through the Active Partner Performance System (APPS). A memorandum was signed by the Commissioner on April 21, 2006, regarding the implementation date and includes background information and regulatory requirements for APPS.

http://ahma-ncnh.org/HUD/docs/APPS_2530_Memo_Apr_2006.pdf

2. Reasonable and Necessary Project Operating Account Expenses Related to Front-Line Management Activities:

The HUD Director of the Office of Asset Management in Washington, D.C. issued a memorandum dated April 4, 2006, to all HUD Multifamily Hub, Program Center and Operations Directors regarding expenses deemed "reasonable and necessary" that can be paid from the project operating account. **Click** on the memo for further information and details.

http://ahma-ncnh.org/HUD/docs/Asset_Mngt_Memo_Apr_4_2006.pdf

3. The Department of Health and Human Services recently sent HUD an e:mail with the following information:

On April 20, 2006, HHS announced that over 30 million people with Medicare now have prescription drug coverage. This brings the total of those who have signed up individually for Medicare prescription drug coverage since enrollment began on November 15, 2005 to over 8 million.

In addition, 5.8 million people with Medicare are getting drug coverage through the Veterans Administration and other sources of coverage that are at least as good as Medicare -- bringing the total to approximately 35.8 million Medicare beneficiaries who are now receiving prescription drug coverage.

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt said "These strong enrollment numbers are a tribute to everyone in the national network of caring -- all of our partners, community leaders, the State Health Insurance Programs (SHIPS), and family members, who have provided counseling and assistance to the millions of beneficiaries who are now taking advantage of this new benefit and saving money."

"The May 15th deadline is fast approaching. We urge everyone who has not signed up to act now to avoid a last minute rush," said CMS Administrator Mark B. McClellan, M.D., Ph.D. "There are plenty of ways to get help. Call 1-800-MEDICARE or attend one of the many thousands of events we are conducting with our partners across the country before the May 15th deadline. Sign up now and start saving on your drugs. And if you don't need drugs now, by signing up you can get the lowest cost protection for the future."

Overall prescription drug coverage figures as of April 18 are:

· **Stand-Alone Prescription Drug Plans:** More than 8 million people with Medicare have enrolled in stand-alone prescription drug plans.

1. Medicare Advantage with Prescription Drugs: About 5.8 million received coverage through Medicare Advantage plans with drug coverage (MA-PDs). More than 950,000 of these beneficiaries signed up on their own.

2. Medicare/Medicaid: About 5.8 million were automatically enrolled in prescription drug plans, plus about 500,000 enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans with prescription drug coverage.

3. Retiree Coverage: More than 6.8 million retirees are enrolled in the Medicare retiree subsidy. In addition, about 1.4 million retirees are in employer and union-sponsored coverage that incorporates Medicare group drug coverage.

4. Federal retiree coverage: 3.5 million

· **TRICARE:** There are 1.9 million beneficiaries with TRICARE retiree coverage.

FEHB: There are 1.6 million beneficiaries with FEHB retiree coverage. This figure now accounts for spouses with Medicare who are covered under a FEHB family policy by retirees who also have Medicare coverage.

5 Additional Sources of Prescription Drug Coverage for Medicare Beneficiaries:

Approximately 5.8 million Medicare beneficiaries have alternative sources of "creditable" prescription drug coverage:

Veterans Affairs (VA): There are an estimated 3.2 million beneficiaries with creditable drug coverage through the VA.

Indian Health Service (IHS): There are an estimated 0.1 million beneficiaries with creditable drug coverage through the IHS.

Active Workers with Medicare Secondary Payer: There are an estimated 2.0 million beneficiaries who are active workers with creditable drug coverage through an employer group health plan.

Other Retiree Coverage: An estimated 500,000 retirees are continuing in coverage from a former employer that is not coordinated with Medicare drug coverage.

To view enrollment data online visit,

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovGenIn/02_EnrollmentData.asp

Those wishing to enroll in Medicare Part D, visit www.medicare.gov.

Please find attached the press release including the state enrollment chart.

http://ahma-ncnh.org/HUD/docs/CMS042006_release.pdf

Disclaimer: The content contained in this email does not create, modify or delete HUD Departmental policy and is only intended to serve as an informational resource.

Please encourage others to sign-up for the Listserv, so they too can receive current RHIIP related information from HUD <http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/maillinglist.cfm>
If you should have any occupancy related questions, please contact your assigned contract administrator, or your RHIIP Help Desk Representative
<http://wwwhud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/rhiip/helpdesk.pdf>

You can view the RHIIP Tips Archives: issues 1-10, under "Listserv-Multifamily RHIIP Tips" at <http://wwwhud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/rhiip/mfhrhiip.cfm>.