

# MA-EPD – ELIGIBILITY BASICS

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## Covered Services

- Provides the same benefit set as Medical Assistance.
- Pays the Medicare Part B premium for MA-EPD enrollees whose income is no greater than 200% FPG and are currently receiving Medicare.

## Application Process

- New applicants must complete an application (60 days processing period).
- Eligibility cannot be approved until the initial premium is paid. Note: If retroactive coverage is requested they must pay the premium for those months before coverage can be approved for that month and they can choose which month(s) they want to pay for and eligibility can only be granted for months that are paid.
- Applicants that have provided verification of American Indian status are not required to pay a premium for MA-EPD.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Must be certified disabled by SSA or SMRT. Note: the county case manager's certification for the Developmental Disabilities (DD) waiver takes the place of SSA/SMRT certification if MA-EPD is received concurrently with DD.
- Cannot be an SSI recipient nor have 1619 (a) or 1619 (b) status.
- Must be employed earning more than \$65 per month. Also, Medicare, Social Security and applicable state and federal income taxes must be paid or withheld from earnings.
- Income of spouse is not counted in determining premium amount.
- Assets must be at or below \$20,000.
  - If only one spouse of a married couple applies, do **not** count the assets of the spouse.
  - If **both** spouses apply, split jointly held assets equally.
- Must be enrolled in and maintain Medicare Part B, if eligible.

## Household Size

- If both spouses are applying for MA-EPD, then each spouse has a household size of one, or more if there are children in the home.
- If only one spouse is applying for MA-EPD, the same policy is used for other MA applicants or enrollees. For more information, review the HCPM section on MA-EPD and household sizes.