Qualified Income Trusts (Miller Trusts) For Providers

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Providers Impacted

Long Term Care Facilities

- Current Medically Needy residents are grandfathered.
- New over-income residents and conversions to Medicaid will use QITs.

Assisted Living Facilities

All over-income Medicaid residents will use QITs.

Home Health Providers

All over-income Medicaid patients will use QITs.

Independent Senior Living

 All over-income Medicaid residents seeking Medicaid services in unit (Community) will use QITs.



Does Resident Need a QIT?

- Does the Resident otherwise qualify for Medicaid but for income in excess of \$2,163?
 - Clinically eligible.
 - Countable resources under \$2,000 individual/\$3,000 couple (lower than Medically Needy).
 - Income includes all sources of income except the spouse's income which is not counted.



QIT Process

1. Resident or legal representative establishes QIT (Trust Documents and Trust Account)



2. Choose amount to be deposited into QIT



3. Post-eligibility deductions as determined by CBOSS/DMAHS



6. Payments repeat monthly until death or change in situation. Remainder in QIT (if any) is paid to DMAHS



5. Medicaid pays for remaining cost of service provided



4. Trustee pays required Cost Share to Facility or DMAHS





QIT Process

Resident or legal representative establishes QIT

- QIT can be set up by Resident, attorney-in-fact (POA) or legal guardian only.
- Resident can set up own QIT but cannot be the Trustee.
- Trustee not limited to POA or Guardian, can be anyone "suitable".
- Recommend that facility employees NOT be Trustee.
- QIT is irrevocable.
- QIT requires separate bank account that will hold only income.

Choose amount to be deposited into QIT

- Only resident's income can be deposited into QIT; No resources or payments from other sources (friends, spouse, etc.).
- Income should be directly deposited, if possible.
- May put entire income or only amount over the qualification limit into the QIT.
 CBOSS will take whole income into account when establishing Cost Share.
- Resident cannot split deposit from same payment source.



QIT Process

Post-eligibility deductions as determined by CBOSS/DMAHS

- Post-eligibility deductions shown on PR-1, PR-2 or PR-3 form (Pa-3L).
- Trustee may also pay for approved health care expenses from QIT. Must submit proof (prescription, receipts, etc.) to receive approval from CBOSS.
- Bank fees for QIT account or related attorney fees cannot be deducted from QIT.

Trustee pays required Cost Share to Facility or DMAHS

- Cost Share set forth on PR form.
- Trustee pay Cost Share to Facility if LTC or AL or to DMAHS if home health.
- Automatic payments by bank are ideal.

Repeats monthly until death or change in situation. Remainder in QIT (if any) is paid to DMAHS

- State of NJ must be primary beneficiary of QIT.
- Ideal situation leaves the QIT with minimal or no balance at death or change.



Benefits of QITs to Providers

Long Term Care

- Minimal impact as Medically Needy residents are grandfathered.
- Resident Cost Share will be in QIT and not able to be spent by family.

Assisted Living:

- Increased population will qualify for AL Medicaid benefits.
- QIT residents still count toward 10% Medicaid requirement.
- Option for over-income current residents who spend down assets.
- Resident Cost Share will be in QIT and not able to be spent by family.

Home Health

Increased population of patients to serve in community.

Independent Living

 Over-income residents can remain in IL and qualify for Medicaid home health services.

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Concerns With QITs

Incapacity with no legal representative

- Consider guardianship or conservatorship proceeding.
 - Work with family, if any.

Collection of Cost Share

- Facility must rely upon Trustee to pay Cost Share from QIT.
- QIT may be unreachable to Resident's creditors.

CBOSS to approve and process QIT information.

- CBOSS already overworked and understaffed and, on occasion, may make a mistake or cause a slight delay when processing an application.
- QIT processing will add new task.



Concerns With QITs

Directing Pension Payments

- It is, generally, easy to change account into which Social Security should deposit benefit funds, but pensions are notoriously difficult.
- May have to rely upon Family to receive pension and deposit all of it into QIT.

Setting up the QIT Account.

- Some banks do not allow accounts to be set up with a \$0 balance.
- Some banks do not allow a POA or guardian to establish an account on another's behalf unless specific authority in POA or appointment order.

Ease of Use

- DMAHS claims that establishing the QIT should be relatively "easy" and should not require a lawyer.
- Time will tell whether this is true.



OPEN DISCUSSION

