

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Deputy Director

Transmittal No.: 12-34

To: Deborah Carroll, Esq.
Administrator, Department of Health, Economic Security Administration

From: Linda Elam, PhD, MPH 
Deputy Director - Medicaid

Date: **DEC 20 2012**

Subject: Alliance Eligibility – Clarifying Requirements for Couples

The purpose of Transmittal No. 12-34 is to clarify that there is no requirement that married individuals applying for D.C. Health Care Alliance Program benefits attend the required face-to-face interview together. This practice imposes a hardship on couples who are working and/or have child care obligations and it is not mandated by law. While the Economic Security Administration may encourage married couples to attend their face-to-face interview together, it should never be mandated or made a condition of eligibility. Couples who are unable to attend their face-to-face interview at the same time should be given separate appointment times. Public Health and Medicine, of the DC Municipal Regulations (DCMR) Section 3304, Subsection 3304.9 refers to beneficiaries as “he or she.” Section 3305, Subsection 3305.1 refers to beneficiaries as “applicants.” Hence, the word “couple” or “spouse” are not mentioned in any of these or preceding sections.

This transmittal is effective January 1, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Lucy Wilson-Kear, Associate Director, Division of Eligibility Policy at lucy.wilson-kear@dc.gov or at (202)-442-8997. You may also contact Claudia Schlosberg, Director, Health Care Policy and Research Administration at Claudia.schlosberg@dc.gov or at (202)-442-9107

DHCF is committed to providing seamless procedures and quality health care services to the District residents. Thank you for assisting us in meeting the needs of the District of Columbia Alliance beneficiaries.

Cc: Wayne Turnage, Director, DHCF
Melisa Byrd, Chief of Staff, DHCF
Sheryl Johnson, General Counsel, DHCF
Maude Holt, Director, Office of Ombudsman and Bill of Rights
Lisa Truitt, Associate Director, Managed Care