



Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare
 600 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111

Field Operations Memo 95-13
 March 1, 1995

TO: Local Office Staff

FROM: Joyce Sampson, Assistant Commissioner for Field and Eligibility Operations

RE: MEDEX Premium Rate Changes for NPA Food Stamps

Introduction

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts has announced premium rate changes to four non-group plans, Gold, Standard, Core and Silver. There are no rate changes to the Bronze or Basic plans. These changes were effective as of January 1995.

This memo:

- . identifies the plans that have changed and the corresponding rate changes and those that have not changed;
- . identifies the date of the changes and the impact this change will have on Food Stamps; and
- . transmits information and instructions for the informational report on the MEDEX premium rate changes.

Rate Changes

The MEDEX plan type, code and new monthly premium (if appropriate) are as follows:

PLAN	CODE	NEW MONTHLY PREMIUM
BASIC	1	\$ 77.55 (no change)
BRONZE	2	\$ 73.17 (no change)
GOLD	3	\$149.67 (increased)
STANDARD	4	\$103.63 (decreased)
CORE	7	\$ 41.29 (decreased)
SILVER	8	\$130.44 (increased)

**Date of Rate
Changes**

PACES was updated with the MEDEX premium rate changes on February 16, 1995 to impact March Food Stamp benefits. Recipients received a PACES-generated notice informing them how their Food Stamp benefits will change.

**Informational
Report**

Local office staff will receive two copies of the following report.

1995 MEDEX Premium Rate - Food Stamp Update Report

This report identifies all cases updated on 2/16/95 and is for informational purposes only. This report includes the following data elements:

Category

Case Social Security Number

Case Name

MEDEX Amount (Old and New)

Food Stamp Bonus Value (Old Bonus Value and New Bonus Value)

Questions

Systems-related questions about the MEDEX premium rate update are to be directed to the Systems Help Desk. Policy questions are to be directed to the Policy Hotline.
