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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Implementation of Section 5001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for Adjustments to the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Medical Assistance Percentage Rates for Federal Matching Shares for Medicaid and Title IV-E Foster Care, Adoption Assistance and Guardianship Assistance Programs

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides the adjusted Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rates for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) as required under Section 5001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Section 5001 of the ARRA provides for temporary increases in the FMAP rates to provide fiscal relief to states and to protect and maintain state Medicaid and certain other assistance programs in a period of economic downturn. The increased FMAP rates apply during a recession adjustment period that is defined in ARRA as the period beginning October 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2010.

DATES Effective Date: These percentages are effective for the quarter beginning October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

A. Background

The FMAP is used to determine the amount of federal matching for specified state expenditures for assistance payments under programs under the Social Security Act. Sections 1905(b) and 1101(a)(8)(B) of the Social Security Act ('`the Act'') require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to publish the FMAP rates each year. The Secretary calculates the percentages using formulas set forth in sections 1905(b) and 1101(a)(8)(B), and from the Department of Commerce's statistics of average income per person in each state and for the nation as a whole. The percentages must be within the upper and lower limits given in section 1905(b) of the Act. The percentages to be applied to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands are specified separately in the Act, and thus are not based on the statutory formula that determines the percentages for the 50 states.

Section 1905(b) of the Act specifies the formula for calculating the FMAP as follows:

The FMAP for any State shall be 100 per centum less the State percentage; and the State percentage shall be that percentage which bears the same ratio to 45 per centum as the square of the per capita income of such State bears to the square of the per capita income of the continental United States (including Alaska) and Hawaii; except that (1) the FMAP shall in no case be less than 50 per centum or more than 83 per centum, and (2) the FMAP for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa shall be 50 per centum.

Section 4725 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 amended section 1905(b) to provide that the FMAP for the District of Columbia for purposes of titles XIX (Medicaid) and XXI (CHIP) shall be 70 percent. The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) (Pub. L. 110-275) amended the FMAP applied to the District of Columbia for maintenance payments under title IV-E programs to make it consistent with the 70 percent Medicaid match rate.

Section 5001 of Division B of the ARRA provides for a temporary increase in FMAP rates for Medicaid and title IV-E Foster Care, Adoption Assistance and Guardianship Assistance programs. The purpose of the increases to the FMAP rates is to provide fiscal relief to states and to protect and maintain State Medicaid and certain other assistance programs in a period of economic downturn, referred to as the ``recession adjustment period.'' The recession adjustment period is defined as the period beginning October 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2010.

B. Calculation of the Increased FMAP Rates Under ARRA

Section 5001 of the ARRA specifies that the FMAP rates shall be temporarily increased for the following: (1) Maintenance of FMAP rates for FY09, FY10, and first quarter of FY11, so that the FMAP rate will not decrease from the prior year, determined by using as the FMAP rate for the current year the greater of any prior fiscal year FMAP rates between 2008-2010 or the rate calculated for the current fiscal year; (2) in addition to any maintenance increase, the application of an increase in each state's FMAP of 6.2 percentage

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points; and (3) an additional percentage point increase based on the state's increase in unemployment during the recession adjustment period. The resulting increased FMAP cannot exceed 100 percent. Each state's FMAP will be recalculated each fiscal quarter beginning October 2008. Availability of certain components of the increased FMAP is conditioned on states meeting statutory programmatic requirements, such as the maintenance of effort requirement, which are not part of the calculation process.

Expenditures for which the increased FMAP is not available under title XIX include expenditures for disproportionate share hospital payments, certain eligibility expansions, services received through an IHS or tribal facility (which are already paid at a rate of 100 percent and therefore not subject to increase), and expenditures that are paid at an enhanced FMAP rate. The increased FMAP is available for expenditures under part E of title IV (including Foster Care, Adoption Assistance and Guardianship Assistance programs) only to the extent of a maintenance increase (hold harmless), if any, and the 6.2 percentage

point increase. The increased FMAP does not apply to other parts of title IV, including part D (Child Support Enforcement Program).

For title XIX purposes only, for each qualifying state with an unemployment rate that has increased at a rate above the statutory threshold percentage, ARRA provides additional relief above the general 6.2 percentage point increase in FMAP through application of a separate increase calculation. For those states, the FMAP for each qualifying state is increased by the number of percentage points equal to the product of the state matching percentage (as calculated under section 1905(b) and adjusted if necessary for the maintenance of FMAP without reduction from the prior year, and after applying half of the 6.2 percentage point general increase in the federal percentage) and the applicable percent determined from the state unemployment increase percentage for the quarter.

The unemployment increase percentage for a calendar quarter is equal to the number of percentage points (if any) by which the average monthly unemployment rate for the state in the most recent previous 3-consecutive-month period for which data are available exceeds the lowest average monthly unemployment rate for the state for any 3-consecutive-month period beginning on or after January 1, 2006. A state qualifies for additional relief based on an increase in unemployment if that state's unemployment increase percentage is at least 1.5 percentage points.

The applicable percent is: (1) 5.5 percent if the state unemployment increase percentage is at least 1.5 percentage points but less than 2.5 percentage points; (2) 8.5 percent if the state unemployment increase percentage is at least 2.5 percentage points but less than 3.5 percentage points; and (3) 11.5 percent if the state unemployment increase percentage is at least 3.5 percentage points.

If the state's applicable percent is less than the applicable percent for the preceding quarter, then the higher applicable percent shall continue in effect for any calendar quarter beginning on January 1, 2009 and ending before July 1, 2010.

Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa made a one-time election between (1) a 30 percent increase in their cap on Medicaid payments (as determined under subsections (f) and (g) of section 1108 of the Social Security Act), or (2) applying the increase of 6.2 percentage points in the FMAP plus a 15 percent increase in the cap on Medicaid payments. There is no quarterly unemployment adjustment for Territories. All territories and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands elected the 30 percent increase in their spending cap on Medicaid payments; therefore there is no recalculation of their FMAP rate.

C. Adjusted FMAPs for the First Quarter of 2010

ARRA adjustments to FMAPs are shown by state in the accompanying table. The hold harmless FY10 FMAP is the higher of the original FY08, FY09, or FY10 FMAP. The 6.2 percentage point increase is added to the hold harmless FY10 FMAP. The unemployment tier is determined by comparing the average unemployment rate for the three consecutive months preceding the start of each fiscal quarter to the lowest consecutive 3-month average unemployment rate beginning January 1, 2006. The unemployment adjustment is calculated according to the unemployment tier and added to the hold harmless FY10 FMAP with the 6.2 percentage point increase.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Shelton or Thomas Musco, Office of Health Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Room 447D--Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201, (202) 690-6870.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.558: TANF Contingency Funds; 93.563: Child Support Enforcement; 93-596: Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and Development Fund; 93.658: Foster Care; 93.659: Adoption Assistance; 93.090: Guardianship Assistance; 93.769: Ticket-to-Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act)

Dated: December 22, 2009.
Kathleen Sebelius,
Secretary of Health and Human Services.

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ARRA Adjustments to FMAP Q1 FY10

Hold	3-month					1st	
1st							
harmless	average				Unemploy-	Quarter	
Quarter							
						FY08	FY09
FY10	Hold	FY10 FMAP	FY10 FMAP	unemploy-	Minimum	Unemploy-	Unemploy-
ment	FY10	FMAP	FMAP	State		original	
original	original	harmless	with 6.2%	ment		unemploy-	ment
ment	adjustment	unemploy-	unemploy-				
						FMAP	FMAP
FMAP	FY10	point	ending	ment	difference	tier	
Q1 FY10	ment	ment hold					
increase	Sept 2009						adjustment
harmless							

Alabama.....						67.62	
67.98	68.01	68.01	74.21	10.4	3.3		7.1
11.5	3.32	77.53	77.53				
Alaska.....						52.48	
50.53	51.43	52.48	58.68	8.2	6.0		2.2
5.5	2.44	61.12	61.12				
Arizona.....						66.20	
65.77	65.75	66.20	72.40	9.1	3.6		5.5
11.5	3.53	75.93	75.93				

Arkansas.....						72.94
72.81	72.78	72.94	79.14	7.2	4.8	2.4
5.5	1.32	80.46	80.46			
California.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	12.2	4.8	7.4
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Colorado.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	7.4	3.6	3.8
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Connecticut.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	8.1	4.3	3.8
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Delaware.....						50.00
50.00	50.21	50.21	56.41	8.1	3.3	4.8
11.5	5.37	61.78	61.78			
District of Columbia.....						70.00
70.00	70.00	70.00	76.20	11.0	5.4	5.6
11.5	3.09	79.29	79.29			
Florida.....						56.83
55.40	54.98	56.83	63.03	10.9	3.3	7.6
11.5	4.61	67.64	67.64			
Georgia.....						63.10
64.49	65.10	65.10	71.30	10.1	4.3	5.8
11.5	3.66	74.96	74.96			
Hawaii.....						56.50
55.11	54.24	56.50	62.70	7.1	2.2	4.9
11.5	4.65	67.35	67.35			
Idaho.....						69.87
69.77	69.40	69.87	76.07	8.8	2.8	6.0
11.5	3.11	79.18	79.18			
Illinois.....						50.00
50.32	50.17	50.32	56.52	10.3	4.4	5.9
11.5	5.36	61.88	61.88			
Indiana.....						62.69
64.26	65.93	65.93	72.13	10.0	4.4	5.6
11.5	3.56	75.69	75.69			
Iowa.....						61.73
62.62	63.51	63.51	69.71	6.6	3.7	2.9
8.5	2.84	72.55	72.55			
Kansas.....						59.43
60.08	60.38	60.38	66.58	7.2	4.0	3.2
8.5	3.10	69.68	69.68			
Kentucky.....						69.78
70.13	70.96	70.96	77.16	11.0	5.4	5.6
11.5	2.98	80.14	80.14			
Louisiana.....						72.47
71.31	67.61	72.47	78.67	7.5	3.5	4.0
11.5	2.81	81.48	81.48			
Maine.....						63.31
64.41	64.99	64.99	71.19	8.5	4.4	4.1
11.5	3.67	74.86	74.86			
Maryland.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	7.2	3.4	3.8
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Massachusetts.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	9.0	4.4	4.6
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			

Michigan.....						58.10
60.27	63.19	63.19	69.39	15.2	6.7	8.5
11.5	3.88	73.27	73.27			
Minnesota.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	7.8	3.9	3.9
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Mississippi.....						76.29
75.84	75.67	76.29	82.49	9.6	6.0	3.6
11.5	2.37	84.86	84.86			
Missouri.....						62.42
63.19	64.51	64.51	70.71	9.4	4.7	4.7
11.5	3.72	74.43	74.43			
Montana.....						68.53
68.04	67.42	68.53	74.73	6.7	3.2	3.5
11.5	3.26	77.99	77.99			
Nebraska.....						58.02
59.54	60.56	60.56	66.76	5.0	2.8	2.2
5.5	2.00	68.76	68.76			
Nevada.....						52.64
50.00	50.16	52.64	58.84	13.0	4.2	8.8
11.5	5.09	63.93	63.93			
New Hampshire.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	7.0	3.4	3.6
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
New Jersey.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	9.6	4.2	5.4
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
New Mexico.....						71.04
70.88	71.35	71.35	77.55	7.4	3.5	3.9
11.5	2.94	80.49	80.49			
New York.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	8.8	4.3	4.5
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
North Carolina.....						64.05
64.60	65.13	65.13	71.33	10.9	4.5	6.4
11.5	3.65	74.98	74.98			
North Dakota.....						63.75
63.15	63.01	63.75	69.95	4.2	3.0	1.2
0	0.00	69.95	69.95			
Ohio.....						60.79
62.14	63.42	63.42	69.62	10.7	5.3	5.4
11.5	3.85	73.47	73.47			
Oklahoma.....						67.10
65.90	64.43	67.10	73.30	6.7	3.3	3.4
8.5	2.53	75.83	75.83			
Oregon.....						60.86
62.45	62.74	62.74	68.94	11.7	5.0	6.7
11.5	3.93	72.87	72.87			
Pennsylvania.....						54.08
54.52	54.81	54.81	61.01	8.6	4.3	4.3
11.5	4.84	65.85	65.85			
Rhode Island.....						52.51
52.59	52.63	52.63	58.83	12.8	4.8	8.0
11.5	5.09	63.92	63.92			
South Carolina.....						69.79
70.07	70.32	70.32	76.52	11.6	5.5	6.1
11.5	3.06	79.58	79.58			

South Dakota.....						60.03
62.55	62.72	62.72	68.92	4.9	2.7	2.2
5.5	1.88	70.80	70.80			
Tennessee.....						63.71
64.28	65.57	65.57	71.77	10.7	4.5	6.2
11.5	3.60	75.37	75.37			
Texas.....						60.56
59.44	58.73	60.56	66.76	8.0	4.4	3.6
11.5	4.18	70.94	70.94			
Utah.....						71.63
70.71	71.68	71.68	77.88	6.1	2.5	3.6
11.5	2.90	80.78	80.78			
Vermont.....						59.03
59.45	58.73	59.45	65.65	6.8	3.5	3.3
8.5	3.18	68.83	69.96			
Virginia.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	6.7	2.8	3.9
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			
Washington.....						51.52
50.94	50.12	51.52	57.72	9.0	4.4	4.6
11.5	5.22	62.94	62.94			
West Virginia.....						74.25
73.73	74.04	74.25	80.45	8.9	4.2	4.7
11.5	2.60	83.05	83.05			
Wisconsin.....						57.62
59.38	60.21	60.21	66.41	8.7	4.4	4.3
11.5	4.22	70.63	70.63			
Wyoming.....						50.00
50.00	50.00	50.00	56.20	6.6	2.8	3.8
11.5	5.39	61.59	61.59			

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