

DSS-4357EL  
WGIUPD

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**  
**DIVISION:** Office of Medicaid Management

01/18/01  
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**GIS 01 MA/001**

**TO:** All Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, Third Party  
Resource Workers  
**FROM:** Betty Rice, Director  
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations  
**SUBJECT:** Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLIMB) and  
Spenddown  
  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Local District Liaison at (518) 474-9130 or New York  
City at (212) 269-6855

Applicants for assistance who are entitled to Medicare Part A can be technically eligible for either SLIMB or spenddown if: (1) income is between 100% and 120% FPL and (2) resources are within appropriate levels. At the time of application, the individual should be encouraged to make a choice. The advantages and disadvantages of both programs should be fully explained by the eligibility worker.

If the applying individual chooses to be SLIMB (i.e., have the Medicare Part B premium paid on his/her behalf resulting in more money in the monthly SSA check), s/he need only complete the simplified one-page application (LDSS 4592). If s/he chooses to spenddown and continues paying the Part B premium, which will help meet the spenddown amount more quickly, the long application (form LDSS 2921) must be completed.

A provisional coverage code of "06" is entered in WMS for upstate districts for both SLIMB and spenddown. If the individual chooses to enroll in the SLIMB program, the Buy-in screen must be completed with a Buy-in code of "L". If the individual chooses to spenddown and gains a coverage code of "01" or "02", the "L" code must be removed from the Buy-in screen, at the time the "01" or "02" coverage code is entered.