

LARRY HOGAN Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD Lieutenant Governor

DAVID R. BRINKLEY
Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

Memorandum

To: Agency Benefits Coordinators

From: Kelly Valentine, Compliance/Project Manager

Date: January 17, 2018

Subject: Dependent Verification Audit (DVA) for January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018 Calendar Year

following fall 2017 Open Enrollment

This memorandum provides the instructions for you in the collection of the required verification documentation for those employees in your agency who added dependents during the fall 2017 Open Enrollment. Please read this entire memo carefully.

Documents Needed for DVA Process

- Your agency listing of your employees identified as having added dependents during Open Enrollment. We are anticipating this listing will be sent via secure email to your primary and secondary agency benefit coordinator on record by Monday, January 29, 2018.
 DVA@2018 will be the password to open your agency's listing.
- CY18 Dependent Document Request memo template for you to use to request the required documentation from each employee on the listing.
 This document can be downloaded from our website at www.dbm.maryland.gov/benefits under the ABC Corner tab.
- 3. **CY18 DVA Worksheet** for you to include with the memos above to let the employee know what documentation they need to submit. This document can be downloaded from our website at www.dbm.maryland.gov/benefits under the ABC Corner tab.
- 4. **Affidavit for Dependent Eligibility** applicable to all dependents. This document can be downloaded from our website at www.dbm.maryland.gov/benefits under the Form tab (bottom right hand corner of page).

Required Documentation

Please refer to page 39 of the January 2018 through December 2018 Benefit Guide, available at, http://dbm.maryland.gov/benefits/Documents/CY18_Benefits_Guide.pdf for details on required documentation.

DVA Instructions

- 1. Please copy and complete the blank Dependent Verification Document Request memo and the Dependent Verification Audit Worksheet for each of the employees on your agency listing, or save the template into Word if you are using the electronic version.
- 2. Fill in ALL the blanks with the applicable information for each employee and the blanks for your information (your name, phone number, fax number, email address and mailing address).
- 3. Attach copies of the calendar year 2018 Dependent Verification Audit Worksheet and the appropriate number of affidavit(s) for each added dependent.
- 4. Make a copy of the completed Dependent Verification Document Request memo and the Dependent Verification Audit Worksheet for your records.
- 5. Deliver and/or mail the Dependent Verification Document Request memo and the Dependent Verification Audit Worksheet to your respective employees.
- 6. As is noted on the Dependent Verification Document Request memo, the employee is directed to return the memo and documentation to you no later than **February 28, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.**
- 7. Please keep copies of the returned memos and documentation for your records.

The Employee Benefits Division must receive copies of the following information, in the order listed on your agency listing, from your agency for each employee and their added dependent(s):

- a) Dependent Verification Memo(s),
- b) Dependent Verification Audit Worksheet, and
- c) Documentation (including the affidavit) supplied by the employees.

Each agency audit is due to the Employee Benefits Division by **March 2, 2018 by 4pm**. We strongly recommend that you use one of the following delivery methods to ensure timely delivery: Hand-deliver to our office, courier, FedEx, UPS, or United States Post Office Express Mail. Please do not use Interdepartmental mail or the U.S. Postal System. The materials should be addressed to:

Employee Benefits Division
ATTN: Dependent Verification Audit
301 W. Preston Street, Room 510
Baltimore, MD 21201

You can also email **via a secure email** to Jesse Filamor at <u>Jesse.Filamor@maryland.gov</u>. Please remember that it must be secure email and do not put any identifying personal information in the subject line.

The Employee Benefits Division will send out the final notice to employees who have not submitted the appropriate documentation. This will be due to EBD by **April 18, 2018**. There will be no exceptions. If the

Employee Benefit Division does not receive the proper documentation, the dependent(s) will be removed from the employee's coverage effective May 1, 2018, as noted in the Dependent Documentation Final Request. The employees will receive an updated Summary Statement showing that their dependent(s) was removed.

Notices

Summary Statement - First Notice

The summary statement generated for each employee during Open Enrollment placed a "~" next to the name of the added dependent(s) and **is the first notice**. The summary statement also indicated that the employee was to provide the Agency Benefits Coordinator with the required dependent documentation within 30 days of the date on the summary statement. Hopefully, you have collected a good portion of the required documentation.

Open Enrollment Dependent Verification Document Request - Second Notice

The Dependent Documentation Memo is sent out by the Agency Benefits Coordinator indicating which dependent's information is missing or insufficient. This information must be returned to the agency no later than **February 28, 2018**.

Dependent Documentation Final Request – Final Notice

The Employee Benefits Division will send out the final notice. The employees will be required to submit the appropriate documentation for their dependent(s) by **April 18, 2018** to avoid having their dependent(s) from being terminated effective **May 1, 2018**.

We thank you in advance for your continued hard work and cooperation.