

COMBINED MEDICAID 103-6 Voter Registration

Supersedes: MA 103-6 (05/01/00); FMA 103-6 (02/01/00)

Reference: National Voter's Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) 42 USC 1973gg, et seq., §13-2-221, MCA

Overview: The NVRA and § 13-2-221, MCA, require DPHHS to offer the following voter registration assistance to individuals who apply for, recertify or renew public assistance or who notify DPHHS of a change of address:

1. The opportunity to register to vote;

- 2. Assistance in completing a Montana voter registration application (MT-VRA); and
- 3. Collecting complete MT-VRA's from clients.

The law requires DPHHS to provide individuals who do not decline voter registration or assistance in completing forms:

- 1. A MT-VRA;
- 2. Assistance in completing the MT-VRA; and
- 3. Collecting completed MT-VRAs from clients.

DPHHS is also required to:

- 1. Provide specific notices to individuals regarding their NVRA rights;
- 2. Accept and submit completed MT-VRAs to the election administrator in the individual's county of residence; and,
- 3. Report information to the Montana Secretary of State regarding the actions DPHHS undertakes to fulfill its duties under the NVRA and § 13-2-221, MCA.

No DPHHS employee may:

- 1. Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or decisions;
- 2. Display on State property any political preference or party allegiance;
- 3. Make any statement or take any action to discourage an applicant from registering to vote;
- 4. Make any statement or take any action that leaves an applicant with the impression that a decision to register or not register has any bearing on eligibility for, or receipt of, any program benefit; or,
- 5. Disclose the identity of any applicant for public assistance to the public or the voter registration agency.

Effective Date: July 01, 2016