

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**Statutory Authority: 31 Delaware Code, Section 512 (31 Del.C. Ch.5, §512)**

**PROPOSED**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**DSSM 20330.7 U.S. Savings Bonds**

In compliance with the State's Administrative Procedures Act (APA - Title 29, Chapter 101 of the **Delaware Code**) and under the authority of Title 31 of the **Delaware Code**, Chapter 5, Section 512, Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS) / Division of Social Services is proposing to amend the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding the Long Term Care Program related to the redemption period for certain U.S. Savings Bonds and provides instructions on waiving the redemption period for U.S. Savings Bonds

Any person who wishes to make written suggestions, compilations of data, testimony, briefs or other written materials concerning the proposed new regulations must submit same to Sharon L. Summers, Policy and Program Development Unit, Division of Social Services, P.O. Box 906, New Castle, Delaware 19720-0906 by January 31, 2005.

The action concerning the determination of whether to adopt the proposed regulation will be based upon the results of Department and Division staff analysis and the consideration of the comments and written materials filed by other interested persons.

**Summary Of The Proposed Changes**

**Citations**

- 31 CFR 351.6; 352.12;359.70; 351.85; 360.90
- POMS SI 01140.240

To DSSM 20330.7 - U.S. Savings Bonds:

1. Change the redemption period for U.S. Savings Bonds Series EE and I from 6 months to 12 months; and,
2. Include instructions provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on waiving the mandatory redemption period.

**DSS PROPOSED REGULATION #04-29**  
**REVISIONS:**

20330.7 U.S. Savings Bonds

U.S. Savings Bonds are obligations of the Federal Government. They are not transferable and can only be sold back to the Federal Government. ~~They Normally, they~~ cannot be redeemed for six months after the issue date specified on the face of the bond. For Series EE, and I Savings Bonds, the redemption period has been extended to 12 months. They are not resources during the ~~6-month mandatory~~ retention period. They become resources (not income) as of the 7<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> month. A bond may not roll over or renew in order to prolong the minimum retention period. Actual redemption (converting to cash) of one bond is required before purchasing a new bond. However, the U.S. Treasury regulation authorizes the Commission of Public Debt to waive the regulatory provisions pertaining to U.S. Savings bonds including the redemption period in order to "relieve any person or persons of unnecessary hardship". A request for a refund because the person now requires Nursing Home care and so needs the funds used to purchase the bonds may constitute hardship. A written request to the Commissioner of Public Debt requesting a waiver to the redemption period is all that is required. The bondholder may simultaneously tender the bond(s) for redemption.

The individual in whose name a U.S. Savings Bond is registered owns it. The Social Security Number shown on a bond is not proof of ownership. The co-owners of a bond (bond titled AND/OR) own equal (50%) shares of the redemption value of the bond. The bond may show an owner followed by POD (proof of death) and another name.

This is a survivorship type of bond. The first named individual owns 100% of the bond. The second individual will own 100% of the bond upon the death of the first individual.

Physical possession of a U.S. Savings Bond is a requirement for redeeming it. This is true for sole or joint ownership. If an individual alleges that he or she cannot submit a bond because a co-owner or other individual will not relinquish physical possession of the bond, obtain a signed statement from the co-owner or the other individual that he or she: has physical possession of the bond; will not allow the applicant to cash the bond; and if co-owner, will not cash the bond and give the applicant his or her share.

The Table of Redemption Values for U.S. Savings Bonds is used to determine the value of a bond. These are available from a local bank. The bank will need the series, denomination, date of purchase or issue date. After the mandatory 6 month retention period, the value of a series H or HH bond is its face value.

**8 DE Reg. 981 (01/01/05)**