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**State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators**

**FROM: Rich Albertoni, Bureau Director
Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability**

| BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO | | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| No: 11-22 | | | | | |
| DATE: 05/18/2011 | | | | | |
| FS <input type="checkbox"/> | MA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | BC+ <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| SC <input type="checkbox"/> | CTS <input type="checkbox"/> | FSET <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| BC+ Basic <input type="checkbox"/> | BC+ CORE <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| CC <input type="checkbox"/> | W-2 <input type="checkbox"/> | EA <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| CF <input type="checkbox"/> | JAL <input type="checkbox"/> | JC <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| RAP <input type="checkbox"/> | WIA <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> | * | | |
| | | EP | | | |

SUBJECT: Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance

CROSS REFERENCE: MEH 18.6

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011

PURPOSE:

This memo provides local agencies with the 2011 amounts for the Community Spouse Income Allowance and the Spousal Impoverishment Family Member Income Allowance.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) published its annual update of the Poverty Income Guidelines (a.k.a., Federal Poverty Level, or FPL) in the Federal Register in January. These guidelines are available at the following website:
<http://aspe.dhhs.gov/poverty/index.shtml>.

Income limits and other amounts used in eligibility determinations for some categories of Medicaid (MA) are based upon the FPL. In addition, Federal and State law mandates that some of the income limit changes published in January related to Spousal Impoverishment have a delay in their effective dates. Those changes are specified in this Operations Memo.

CARES:

The Spousal Impoverishment Community Spouse Income Allowance Allocation, Shelter Base Amount, and the Spousal Impoverishment Family Member Income Allowance will increase effective July 1, 2011 in accordance with State and Federal Law.

The new limits will be in CARES on Table TMEP on May 23, 2011. CARES eligibility redeterminations for July benefits will occur as part of a mass change on the weekend of June 11, 2011.

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE

| ITEM | Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2011 | Amount Effective 07/01/11 |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Minimum Allocation | \$2428.33 | \$2,451.67 |
| Shelter Base Amount | \$728.50 | \$735.50 |

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FAMILY MEMBER INCOME ALLOWANCE

| Group Size | Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2011 | Amount Effective 07/01/11 |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Each eligible family member | \$607.08 | \$612.92 |

CONTACTS:

BEPS CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, BC+ Core – BadgerCare Plus Core, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

DHS/DHCAA/BEPS/JL