



Date: May 26, 2016

DHCAA Operations Memo 16-15

To: Income Maintenance Supervisors  
Income Maintenance Lead Workers  
Income Maintenance Staff

Affected Programs:	
<input type="checkbox"/> BadgerCare Plus	<input type="checkbox"/> Caretaker Supplement
<input type="checkbox"/> FoodShare	<input type="checkbox"/> FoodShare Employment and Training
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicaid	
<input type="checkbox"/> SeniorCare	

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Division of Health Care Access and Accountability

**Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance Federal Poverty Level Adjustment**

**CROSS REFERENCE**

Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, [Section 18.6 Spousal Impoverishment Income Allocation](#)

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

July 1, 2016

**PURPOSE**

This Operations Memo provides local agencies with the 2016 amounts for the spousal impoverishment community spouse income allowance, the spousal impoverishment family member income allowance, and the shelter base amount.

**BACKGROUND**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services published its annual update of the Poverty Income Guidelines, also called the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Guidelines, in the Federal Register on January 25, 2016. These guidelines are available at the following website: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>.

Income limits and other amounts used in eligibility determinations for some categories of Medicaid are based on the FPL. Federal and state law mandates that the income limit changes related to spousal impoverishment have a delay in their effective dates. As a result, the changes are effective July 1, 2016.

**POLICY**

The spousal impoverishment community spouse income allowance allocation, the spousal impoverishment family member income allowance, and the shelter base amount will increase effective July 1, 2016.

***SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE***

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount Effective From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016</b>	<b>New Amount Effective July 1, 2016</b>
Minimum allocation	\$2,655.00	\$2,670.00
Shelter base amount	\$ 796.50	\$ 801.00

***SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FAMILY MEMBER INCOME ALLOWANCE***

<b>Group Size</b>	<b>Amount Effective From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016</b>	<b>New Amount Effective July 1, 2016</b>
Each eligible family member	\$663.75	\$667.50

**CARES**

The new limits will be in CARES on Table TMEP on May 27, 2016. CARES eligibility redeterminations for July benefits will occur on June 4, 2016, as part of a mass change.

**CONTACTS**

BEPS CARES Information and Problem Resolution Center

DHS/DHCAA/BEPS/NH