



Date: May 22, 2020

DMS Operations Memo 20-10

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 | |

From: Rebecca McAtee, Bureau Director
Bureau of Enrollment Policy and Systems
Division of Medicaid Services

Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance Federal Poverty Level Adjustment

CROSS REFERENCE

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

EFFECTIVE DATE

July 1, 2020

PURPOSE

This operations memo provides the 2020 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 17, 2020. These guidelines are available at <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, 2020.

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, 2020. The new limits will be in CARES on May 27, 2020. CARES eligibility redeterminations for July benefits will occur on June 6, 2020, as part of a mass change.

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE

Item	Amount Effective From July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020	New Amount Effective July 1, 2020
Minimum allocation	\$2,818.34	\$2,873.34
Shelter base amount	\$845.50	\$862.00

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FAMILY MEMBER INCOME ALLOWANCE

Item	Amount Effective From July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020	New Amount Effective July 1, 2020
Each eligible family member	\$704.58	\$718.34

CONTACTS

BEPS CARES Information and Problem Resolution Center

DHS/DMS/BEPS/NLH