# STATE OF WISCONSIN Department of Health Services Division of Medicaid Services



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Date: November 23, 2022 DMS Operations Memo 22-31

To: Income Maintenance Supervisors

Income Maintenance Lead Workers

Income Maintenance Staff

Affected Programs:	
☐ BadgerCare Plus	☐ Caretaker Supplement
FoodShare	☐ FoodShare Employment
	and Training
☐ SeniorCare	

From: Jonelle Brom, Bureau Director

Bureau of Eligibility Operations and Training

Division of Medicaid Services

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Bureau of Enrollment and Eligibility Policy

Division of Medicaid Services

2023 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Medicaid for the Elderly, Blind, or Disabled

#### CROSS-REFERENCE

Medicaid Eligibility Handbook

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

January 1, 2023

#### **PURPOSE**

This operations memo announces this year's Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and the resulting increase in some Medicaid financial eligibility limits, effective January 1, 2023.

#### **BACKGROUND**

As announced by the Social Security Administration, the COLA for calendar year 2023 is 8.7% for the Social Security Administration (SSA) Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (OASDI or Title II) Program and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI or Title XVI) Program.

The Medicare Part B costs are also updated based on the yearly amount set in federal law.

The federal COLA increase will result in changes to some of the Medicaid income levels, allowances, and deductions in CARES.

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CARES eligibility redeterminations for January 2023 will occur as part of the annual mass change.

Note: SSI amounts will not be updated in CARES through the COLA mass change. SSI amounts will continue to be auto-updated on a weekly basis. The increase in federal SSI payments will appear as an auto-update after adverse action in December 2022 and will impact February 2023 benefits. The regular SSI auto-update alerts will be generated when these amounts change.

There will not be a COLA increase in state SSI Supplement or Supplemental Security Income Exceptional Expense (SSI-E) payment amounts.

#### **POLICY**

#### EBD DEDUCTIBLES

Per MEH, 24.6.1, increases in Social Security benefits due to the COLA may not result in increases to the amount of met or unmet deductibles. However, any increases in Medicare premiums must be used to adjust the amount of any remaining unmet deductibles.

#### **NEW PROGRAM AMOUNTS FOR 2023**

### INSTITUTIONAL MEDICAID CATEGORICALLY NEEDY MONTHLY INCOME LIMIT

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Section 39.4 Effective Date: January 1, 2023, unless otherwise noted

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Categorically needy monthly income limit for a person in a medical institution	\$2,742	\$2,523

# ELDERLY, BLIND, AND DISABLED (EBD) MEDICAID MONTHLY INCOME LIMITS AND ASSET LIMIT CHANGES

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Section 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Categorically Needy Monthly Income Limits		
Group Size of 1	\$997.78	\$924.78
Group Size of 2	\$1,503.05	\$1,393.05
Categorically Needy Asset Limits		
Group Size of 1	No Change	\$2,000
Group Size of 2	No Change	\$3,000
Medically Needy Asset Limits		
Group Size of 1	No Change	\$2,000
Group Size of 2	No Change	\$3,000

**Note:** The Medically Needy monthly income limits will be updated in early 2023 when the Federal Poverty Level income guidelines are updated.

### MONTHLY EBD DEEMING AMOUNT TO AN INELIGIBLE MINOR

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Sections 1.1.3.3, 15.1.2 and 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly EBD Deeming Amount to an Ineligible Minor	\$457	\$420

#### MONTHLY PARENTAL LIVING ALLOWANCE

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Sections 1.1.3.3, 15.1.2, and 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly Parental Living Allowance – 1 Parent	\$914	\$841
Monthly Parental Living Allowance – 2 Parents	\$1,371	\$1,261

## SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT INCOME ALLOCATION AND ASSET SHARE

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Chapters 18.6.2 and 18.4.3

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

#### **Income:**

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Community Spouse Asset Share (CSAS) maximum	148,620	\$137,400
Income allocation maximum (monthly)	3,715.50	\$3,435.50

#### **Assets:**

IF the total countable assets of the couple are:	THEN the CSAS is:	MA Eligibility Limit
\$297,240 or more	\$148,620	\$150,620
Less than \$297,240, but greater than \$100,000	half the total countable assets of the couple	1/2 + \$2,000
\$100,000 or less	\$50,000	\$52,000

## **Income Allocation and Allowance:**

Community Spouse Allocation	The maximum allocation is the lesser of: \$3,715.50, or \$3,051.66 plus excess shelter allowance. (The lower allocation limit does not change with the COLA increases. This amount will be updated on July 1.)	
	"Excess shelter allowance" means shelter expenses above \$915.50. Shelter expenses are mortgage, rent, taxes, maintenance fees, and a utility allowance. (The excess shelter allowance does not change with the COLA increases. This amount will be updated on July 1.)	
Dependent Family Member Income Allowance Standard	<b>\$2,288.75</b> (This amount does not change with the COLA increases. This amount will be updated on July 1.)	
	The maximum allowance per dependent family member is \$762.92.	
Personal Needs Allowance	\$45 for institutionalized individuals (no change)	
Community Waivers Allowance	\$1,094 to \$2,742 for a person in community waivers	

**NOTE:** The dollar amounts for income allocation and allowance are monthly amounts.

# SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FACT SHEET

IM workers and members can access the Wisconsin Medicaid Spousal Impoverishment Protection fact sheet, P-10063, in the publications library: <a href="mailto:dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/P-10063.htm">dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/P-10063.htm</a>

#### 2023 MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM AMOUNT BASED ON INCOME

Some people who get Social Security benefits will pay less than the standard monthly premium amount of \$164.90.

The people who pay the standard monthly premium or higher amounts shown in the chart below are those who fall into one of the following groups:

- 1. Individuals enrolled in Part B for the first time in 2023
- 2. Individuals who do not receive Social Security benefits.
- 3. Individuals who are directly billed for Part B premiums.
- 4. Individuals who have Medicare and Medicaid, and Medicaid pays their premiums (the state of Wisconsin will pay the standard premium amount of \$164.90).
- 5. Individuals whose modified adjusted gross income as reported on their IRS tax return from 2021 is above a certain amount.

Cross Reference: None

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Yearly Income (as Reported on the 2021 IRS Tax Return)			
Single	Married (Filing Jointly)	Married (Filing Separately)	Monthly Premium
\$97,000 or less	\$194.000 or less	\$97,000 or less	\$164.90
\$97,001 - \$123,000	\$194,001 - \$246,000		\$230.80
\$123,001 - \$153,000	\$246,001 - \$306,000		\$329.70
\$153,001 - \$183,000	\$306,001 - \$366,000		\$428.60
\$183,001 - \$499,999	\$366,001 - \$749,999	\$97,001 - \$402,999	\$527.50
\$500,000 and above	\$750,000 and above	\$403,000 and above	\$560.50

More information on Part B premiums is available at the following Medicare website: <a href="https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2023-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles-2023-medicare-part-d-income-related-monthly">https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2023-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles-2023-medicare-part-d-income-related-monthly</a>

#### SSI-E MONTHLY PAYMENT LEVEL

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Section 39.4

Effective Date: No change

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
State SSI-E Supplement monthly payment	No Change	\$95.99

# MONTHLY SSI PAYMENT LEVEL+ SUPPLEMENT (HOME MAINTENANCE MAXIMUM ALLOWANCES)

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Sections 15.7.1 and 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

	ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly SSI Paym	ent Level + E Supplement	\$1,093.77	\$1,020.77

## COMMUNITY WAIVERS MONTHLY BASIC NEEDS ALLOWANCE

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Sections 28.8.3 and 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly Basic Needs Allowance	\$1,094	\$1,021
EBD Maximum Monthly Personal Maintenance Allowance	\$2,742	\$2,523

## COMMUNITY WAIVERS SPECIAL INCOME LIMIT (GROUP B)

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Sections 28.8.3 and 39.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly income limit for a single person or spouse not applying	\$2,742	\$2,523

### TUBURCULOSIS BENEFIT MONTHLY INCOME LIMIT

Cross Reference: BadgerCare Plus Eligibility Handbook, Chapter 43.2

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Monthly income limit for one person	\$1,913	\$1,767
Monthly income limit for a married couple	\$2,827	\$2,607

### MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM ASSET LIMITS

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Section 25.7.2

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ITEM	NEW AMOUNT	OLD AMOUNT
Asset limit for one person	\$9,090	\$8,400
Asset limit for two persons	\$13,630	\$12,600

Applies only to Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB), and Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary Plus (SLMB+); does not apply to Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI).

# COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) DISREGARD

Cross Reference: Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Section 39.6

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

MONTH SSI LAST RECEIVED:	MULTIPLY 2023 OASDI BY:	MULTIPLY 2022 OASDI BY:
Jan 2022 - Dec 2022	0.080037	
Jan 2021 - Dec 2021	0.131291	0.055713
Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	0.142439	0.067831
Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	0.155944	0.082511
Jan 2018 - Dec 2018	0.178934	0.107501
Jan 2017 - Dec 2017	0.195033	0.125001
Jan 2016 - Dec 2016	0.197441	0.127618
Jan 2015 - Dec 2015	0.197441	0.127618
Jan 2014 - Dec 2014	0.210856	0.142201
Jan 2013 - Dec 2013	0.222518	0.154877
Jan 2012 - Dec 2012	0.235515	0.169004
Jan 2011 - Dec 2011	0.262080	0.197881
Jan 2010 - Dec 2010	0.262080	0.197881
Jan 2009 - Dec 2009	0.262080	0.197881
Jan 2008 - Dec 2008	0.302533	0.241853
Jan 2007 - Dec 2007	0.318214	0.258899
Jan 2006 - Dec 2006	0.339994	0.282574
Jan 2005 - Dec 2005	0.365989	0.310830
Jan 2004 - Dec 2004	0.382657	0.328948
Jan 2003 - Dec 2003	0.395354	0.342750
Jan 2002 - Dec 2002	0.403703	0.351825
Jan 2001 - Dec 2001	0.418813	0.368250
Jan 2000 - Dec 2000	0.438467	0.389614
Jan 1999 - Dec 1999	0.451628	0.403920
Jan 1998 - Dec 1998	0.458665	0.411569

MONTH SSI LAST RECEIVED:	MULTIPLY 2023 OASDI BY:	MULTIPLY 2022 OASDI BY:
Jan 1997 - Dec 1997	0.469800	0.423672
Jan 1996 - Dec 1996	0.484742	0.439915
Jan 1995 - Dec 1995	0.497799	0.454108
Jan 1994 - Dec 1994	0.511478	0.468976
Jan 1993 - Dec 1993	0.523858	0.482433
Jan 1992 - Dec 1992	0.537726	0.497508
Jan 1991 - Dec 1991	0.554220	0.515437
Jan 1990 - Dec 1990	0.577059	0.540263
Jan 1989 - Dec 1989	0.596044	0.560900
Jan 1988 - Dec 1988	0.611581	0.577789
Jan 1987 - Dec 1987	0.627237	0.594807
Jan 1986 - Dec 1986	0.632021	0.600007
Jan 1985 - Dec 1985	0.643085	0.612034
Jan 1984 - Dec 1984	0.655155	0.625153
Jul 1983 - Dec 1983	0.666816	0.637829
Jul 1982 - Jun 1983	0.689773	0.662783
Jul 1981 - Jun 1982	0.721019	0.696748
Jul 1980 - Jun 1981	0.755922	0.734687
Jul 1979 - Jun 1980	0.777909	0.758587
Jul 1978 - Jun 1979	0.791464	0.773321
Apr 1977 - Jun 1978	0.803082	0.785950

# **CONTACTS**

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DHS/DMS/BEEP/JL & EB