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**State of Wisconsin  
Governor Jim Doyle**

**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:** Amy Mendel-Clemens, Chief  
Technical Assistance and Training Section  
Bureau of Enrollment Management  
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability

<b>BEM/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO</b>					
<b>No:</b> 09-40					
<b>DATE:</b> 06/02/2009					
<b>FS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>MA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>BC+</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CORE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SC</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>CTS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FSET</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>CC</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>W-2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>EA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CF</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>JAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>JC</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>RAP</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>WIA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> *
				<b>EP</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBJECT: Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance**

**CROSS REFERENCE:** MEH 18.6, Operations Memo 09-06

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2009

**PURPOSE:**

This memo provides local agencies with the 2009 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.

**POLICY CHANGE:**

The Spousal Impoverishment Community Spouse Income Allowance Allocation, Shelter Base Amount, and the Spousal Impoverishment Family Member Income Allowance will increase effective July 1, 2009 in accordance with State and Federal Law.

**CARES:**

The new limits will be in CARES on Table TMEP on May 29, 2009. CARES eligibility redeterminations for July benefits will occur as part of a mass change on the weekend of June 6, 2009.

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE

ITEM	Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2009	Amount Effective 07/01/09
Minimum Allocation	\$2,333.33	<b>\$2,428.33</b>
Shelter Base Amount	\$700.00	<b>\$728.50</b>

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FAMILY MEMBER INCOME ALLOWANCE

Group Size	Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2009	Amount Effective 07/01/09
Each eligible family member	\$583.33	<b>\$607.08</b>

**CONTACTS:**

BEM 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, 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/BEM/LT