

DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 01-15, SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT STANDARDS

DATE: June 19, 2015

SUBJECT: 2015 Spousal Impoverishment Standards

DISTRIBUTION: County Directors

Medicaid Supervisors

Medicaid Eligibility Staff

I. BACKGROUND

The minimum community spouse income allowance and excess shelter allowance are adjusted annually in accordance with the changes in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) federal benefit rate and the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Section 1924 of the Social Security Act directs that these adjustments are effective July 1st of each year.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. The Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMNA) is \$ 1992 effective July 1, 2015.

B. The shelter standard is \$598 effective July 1, 2015.

1. For applications use the new amounts when determining eligibility for on or after July 1.
2. For existing cases apply the new amounts at the first change in situation or review.

C. MA-2270, Long Term Care Need and Budgeting has been updated to remove the amounts. Changes will be made online with a listserv message.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Operational Support Team at ost.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Dave Richard

Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance

(This material was written and researched by Christine Coffey, Medicaid Eligibility Unit)