

DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 03-17, SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT STANDARDS

DATE: July 1, 2017

SUBJECT: 2017 Spousal Impoverishment Standards

DISTRIBUTION: County Directors
Medicaid Supervisors
Medicaid 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 \$2030 effective July 1, 2017.

B. The Shelter Standard is \$609 effective July 1, 2017.

1. For applications, use the new amounts when determining eligibility for all months beginning July 1, 2017.
2. For existing cases, apply the new amounts at the first change in situation or review effective on or after July 1, 2017.

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 Rachel Keels, Policy Consultant, Eligibility Services)