

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO 18-05, SPOUSAL INCOME PROTECTION

DATE: JUNE 1, 2005

Manual: Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid

Change No: 18-05

To: County Directors of Social Services

Effective: July 1, 2005

I. NEW AVERAGE PRIVATE NURSING FACILITY RATE

[MA-2240, Transfer of Resources](#), has been revised to raise the current average private nursing facility rate to \$4,800.

II. COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE AND DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBER ALLOWANCE CHANGES

[MA-2270, Long Term Care Need and Budgeting](#), has been revised to provide the following amounts for calculating the community spouse income allowance and the dependent family member allowance based on the increase in the federal poverty level.

A. The basic spousal allowance is increased from \$1,562 to \$1,604.

B. The shelter standard is increased from \$469 to \$482.

C. The maximum dependent allowance is increased from \$521 to \$535.

There is no change in the maximum community spouse income allowance. It increased to \$2,378 effective January 1, 2005.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

These changes are effective July 1, 2005.

A. Spousal Income Protection

1. Applications

Apply the new amounts in determining spousal income allowances, dependent family member allowances and private nursing facility rates effective on or after July 1, 2005. For the months prior to July 1, 2005, use the old amounts.

2. Ongoing Cases

Apply the new amounts in re-determining spousal income allowances, dependent family member allowances and private nursing facility rates at the first re-determination/review or change in situation effective July 1, 2005, or later.

- a. For reviews or changes in situation in process or begun on or after receipt of this change notice, use these amounts to determine the patient monthly liability effective July 1, 2005, or later.
- b. For all other cases apply these amounts at the next review or change in situation.

B. New Average Private Nursing Facility Rate

Apply the new average private nursing facility rate of \$4,800 when determining sanction periods for transfer of resources when the application date is July 1, 2005, or later. When the application date is prior to July 1, 2005, use the old amount of \$4,200. Use the \$4,800 amount when the applicant/recipient requests nursing home assistance, CAP, Long Term Care or in home services on or after July 1, 2005.

Use the old amount of \$4,200 for any cases currently in appeal process.

IV. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL

Remove: MA-2240, Transfer of Resources, pages 5 - 8, 17, 18, 21 – 26, 31, 32, and MA-2240 Figure 2, A Guide for Evaluating Transfer of Resources.

Insert: [MA-2240, Transfer of Resources](#), pages 5 - 8, 17, 18, 21 – 26, 31, 32 and MA-2240 Figure 2, A Guide for Evaluating Transfer of Resources.

Remove: MA-2270, Long Term Care Need and Budgeting, pages 9 and 10, 13 through 16, and Figure 6, Community Spouse Income Allowance Worksheet.

Insert: [MA-2270, Long Term Care Need and Budgeting](#), pages 9 and 10, 13 through 16 and Figure 6, Community Spouse Income Allowance Worksheet, effective July 1, 2005.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Mark T. Benton
Interim Director

[This material was researched and written by Sandi Morrow, Medicaid Policy Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.