

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

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**DIVISION:** Office of Health Insurance Programs

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**GIS 11 MA/027**

**TO:** Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

**FROM:** Judith Arnold, Director  
Division of Coverage and Enrollment

**SUBJECT:** 2012 Medicaid Only Income and Resource Levels

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2012

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Due to a 3.6 percent cost of living adjustment for SSA payments effective January 1, 2012, several figures used in determining Medicaid eligibility must be updated. With an increase to the SSI benefit levels, the medically needy income and resource levels will be adjusted accordingly. As a result of these changes, the Mass Rebudgeting (MRB) will be performed in November for January 1, 2012 budget changes.

In addition, an increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) requires an adjustment to the Medicaid Income Standards used for Singles/Childless Couples and Low Income Families.

Note: The Federal Poverty Levels (FPLs) will be updated when the actual amounts are published in the Federal Register. At that time, another Mass Rebudgeting of affected cases may be performed. Further information will be forthcoming.

Effective January 1, 2012, Medicaid eligibility must be determined using the following figures:

1. Medicaid Income Standards and Medically Needy Income and Resource Levels.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MEDICAID STANDARD S/CC - LIF		MEDICALLY NEEDY INCOME LEVEL		RESOURCES
	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	
ONE	8,818	735	9,500	792	14,250
TWO	11,008	918	13,900	1,159	20,850
THREE	13,098	1,092	15,985	1,333	23,978
FOUR	15,208	1,268	18,070	1,506	27,105
FIVE	17,389	1,450	20,155	1,680	30,233
SIX	18,984	1,582	22,240	1,854	33,360
SEVEN	20,665	1,723	24,325	2,028	36,488
EIGHT	22,822	1,902	26,410	2,201	39,615
EACH ADD'L PERSON	1,236	104	2,085	174	3,128

2. The Supplemental Security Income federal benefit rate (FBR) for an individual living alone is \$698/single and \$1,048/couple.
3. The allocation amount is \$367, the difference between the Medicaid income level for a household of two and one.
4. The 249e factors are .966 and .168.
5. The SSI resource levels remain \$2,000 for individuals and \$3,000 for couples.
6. The State supplement remains \$87 for an individual and \$104 for a couple living alone.
7. The Medicare Part A premium is \$248/month for individuals having 30-39 work quarters and \$451/month for those who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free hospital insurance and have less than 30 work quarters.
8. The Maximum federal Community Spouse Resource Allowance is \$113,640.
9. The Minimum State Community Spouse Resource Allowance is \$74,820.
10. The community spouse Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMMNA) is \$2,841.
11. Maximum Family Member Allowance remains \$613 until the FPLs for 2012 are published in the Federal Register.
12. Family Member Allowance formula number remains \$1,839 until the FPLs for 2012 are published in the Federal Register.
13. Personal Needs Allowance for certain waiver participants subject to spousal impoverishment budgeting is \$367.
14. Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA): Non-Blind \$1,010/month, Blind \$1,690/month, Trial Work Period (TWP) \$720/month.
15. SSI-related student earned income disregard limit of \$1,700/monthly up to a maximum of \$6,840/annually.

#### Medicare Part B Premium

The standard Medicare Part B monthly premium will be \$99.90 in 2012. This represents a decrease of \$15.50 from the 2011 premium of \$115.40 and a decrease of \$10.60 for the 2010 premium of \$110.50. However, many Medicare beneficiaries were held harmless in 2010 and 2011, and continued paying the premium of \$96.40 per month. The 2012 premium represents a \$3.50 increase for these individuals.

The 2012 COLA increase of 3.6% combined with a decrease in the Medicare Part B premium cost may have a negative impact on Medicaid eligibility for some. For example, an individual receiving a monthly income increase in 2012 combined with a decrease in the Medicaid Part B MBL income deduction may no longer be income eligible.

A chart with the new Medicaid levels is attached. MBL will be programmed to use these figures when a "From" date of January 1, 2012 or greater is entered. Upstate Mass Rebudgeting will occur November 24<sup>th</sup>, and will be available on production November 25<sup>th</sup>. New York City Mass Rebudgeting will occur December 24, 2011.

Please direct any questions to the Local District Support Unit at 518-474-8887 Upstate and 212-417-4500 for NYC.