



**STATE OF DELAWARE  
DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
POLICY, PLANNING AND QUALITY**

**MEMORANDUM**

REPLY TO  
ATTN. OF: Administrative Notice DMMA 04-2014

TO: All DMMA Staff

DATE: November 19, 2014

SUBJECT: 2015 SSI Related Income Standards and Medicare Premiums

**BACKGROUND**

The Social Security Administration will implement an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2015. The amount of the COLA is based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is derived from changes in the Consumer Price Index. The COLA for 2015 is 1.7 percent.

**DISCUSSION**

The new SSI standard effective January 1, 2015 will be \$733.00 for an individual and \$1,100.00 for a couple. The SSI standard is used in setting income standards for Medicaid programs.

The income standard for the 30-day acute care hospital program is equal to the SSI standard.

\$733.00 for an individual                      \$1,100 for a couple

The income standard for Long Term Care Programs and the Children's Community Alternative Disability program is equal to 250% of the SSI standard. Effective January 1, 2015 the new income standard for these programs are as follows:

\$1,833.00 for an individual                      \$2,750.00 for a couple

Each individual will have \$20.00 of his or her available income disregarded in order to determine eligibility. There is no \$20.00 disregard for "needs" based income such as VA pensions. There is only one \$20.00 disregard from the total combined income for a couple. The new income standards with the \$20.00 disregard added in are:

\$1,853.00 for an individual                      \$2,770.00 for a couple

There is no change in the resource limit.

\$2,000.00 for an individual

\$3,000.00 for a couple

The 2015 Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A \$ 407.00 (reduced from 2014)

Part B \$ 104.90 (remains the same as 2014)  
(For individuals earning less than \$85,000 annually)

### **ACTION REQUIRED**

Eligibility System will be updated with the new income standards.

### **DIRECT INQUIRIES TO**

Barbara L. Lewis  
(302) 857-5039

*November 19, 2014*

Date

*Glyne Williams*

Glyne Williams, Chief  
Policy, Planning and Quality  
Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance