

Administrative Notice DMMA-07-2006

TO: All Staff

DATE: November 8, 2006

SUBJECT: SSI-Related Income Limits for Medical Assistance

Background

The Social Security Administration will implement the next annual SSI cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2007. 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 the year 2007 is 3.3 percent.

Discussion

The new SSI payment is \$623.00 for an individual and \$934.00 for a couple. The income standard for the 30-day acute care hospital program is equal to the SSI standard. The income standard for Long Term Care Programs and the Children's Community Alternative Disability Program is equal to 250% of the SSI payment standard. Effective January 1, 2007, the new income limits for these programs are as follows:

\$1,558.00 for an individual \$2,335.00 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 most VA pensions. There is only one \$20.00 disregard from total combined income for a couple. The new income limits with the \$20.00 disregard added in are:

\$1,578.00 for an individual \$2,355.00 for a couple

There is no change in the resource limit.

The Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A \$410.00

Part B \$93.50

For individuals earning less than \$80,000 annually.

Action Required

DCIS will be updated with the new income limits.

Inquiries to:

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Signed 11-08-2006
HARRY HILL, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE