

**STATE OF DELAWARE****DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
POLICY & PLANNING UNIT****ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE A-14-2025**

TO: DMMA Staff
DATE: November 20, 2025
PROGRAM(S): Non-MAGI and Long-Term Care Medicaid
SUBJECT: 2026 SSI Related Income Standards and Medicare Premiums

BACKGROUND

The Social Security Administration will implement an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2026. 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 2026 is 2.8 percent.

DISCUSSION

The new Supplemental Security Income (SSI) standard effective January 1, 2026 will be \$994.00 for an individual and \$1491.00 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.

\$994.00 for an individual \$1,491.00 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. The income standard for these programs for 2026 is as follows:

\$2,485.00 for an individual \$3,727.50 for a couple

Each individual will have \$20.00 of their available income disregarded in order to determine eligibility. There is no \$ 20.00 disregard for "needs" based income such as Veterans Affairs (VA) pensions. There is only one \$20.00 disregard from the total

A-14-2025

combined income for a couple. For 2026, the income standards with the \$20.00 disregard are as follows:

\$2,505.00 for an individual

\$3,747.50 for a couple

There is no change in the resource limit:

\$2,000.00 for an individual

\$3,000.00 for a couple

The 2026 Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A \$ 565.00

Part B \$202.90

Part B Immunosuppressive Drug \$121.60

(For members filing an individual tax return and earning less than \$109,000 annually, or for members filing joint tax returns and earning less than \$218,000)

ACTION REQUIRED

The eligibility system will be updated with the new income standards.

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

DHSS_DMMA_PPU@delaware.gov

11/21/2025 | 4:01 PM EST

Date

DocuSigned by:

Andrew Wilson

35F947C98C8B499...

Andrew Wilson, Director
Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance