

## STATE OF DELAWARE



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**POLICY, PLANNING & QUALITY  
MEMORANDUM**

REPLY TO  
ATTN. OF: Administrative Notice DMMA-- A-12-2020

TO: All DMMA Staff

DATE: November 30, 2020

SUBJECT: 2021 SSI Related Income Standards and Medicare Premiums

**BACKGROUND**

The Social Security Administration will implement an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2021. 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 2021 is 1.3 percent.

**DISCUSSION**

The new SSI standard effective January 1, 2021 will be \$ 794.00 for an individual and \$1,191.00 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.

\$794.00 for an individual	\$1,191.00 for a couple
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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 2021 is as follows:

\$1,985 for an individual	\$ 2,977.50 for a couple
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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. For 2021, the income standards with the \$20.00 disregard are as follows:

\$2,005 for an individual	\$2,997.50 for a couple
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There is no change in the resource limit.

\$2,000.00 for an individual

\$3,000.00 for a couple

The 2021 Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A \$471.00

Part B \$148.50

(For members filing an individual tax return and earning less than \$ 88,000 annually OR  
For members filing joint tax returns and earning less than \$176,000)

**ACTION REQUIRED**

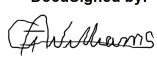
The eligibility System will be updated with the new income standards.

**DIRECT INQUIRIES TO**

Melissa Dohring  
(302) 255-9574

November 30, 2020

DATE

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Glyne Williams, Chief  
Policy & Planning  
Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance