

1. GIS 15 MA/01 was issued 1/26/15 with new Medicaid Regional Rates for Calculating Transfer Penalty Periods for 2015. It is effective: January 1, 2015

These rates are based on average private pay nursing home costs in each of the seven regions in the State.

Northern Metropolitan \$11,455

Dutchess Ulster
Orange Westchester
Putnam
Rockland
Sullivan

Central \$8,768

Broome Jefferson Oswego
Cayuga Lewis St. Lawrence
Chenango Madison Tioga
Cortland Oneida Tompkins
Herkimer Onondaga

New York City \$11,843

Bronx Queens
Kings (Brooklyn)
Richmond (Staten Island)
New York (Manhattan)

Northeastern \$9,414

Albany Fulton Saratoga
Clinton Greene Schenectady
Columbia Hamilton Schoharie
Delaware Montgomery Warren
Essex Otsego Washington
Franklin Rensselaer

Long Island \$12,390

Nassau
Suffolk

Rochester \$10,660

Chemung Seneca
Livingston Steuben
Monroe Wayne
Ontario Yates
Schuyler

Western \$9,442

Allegany Niagara
Cattaraugus Orleans
Chautauqua Wyoming
Erie
Genesee

Reminder: Districts must use the rate for the region in which the facility is located.

2. GIS 14 MA/029: 2015 Medicaid Only Income and Resource Levels and Spousal Impoverishment Standards

Due to a 1.7 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security Administration (SSA) payments effective January 1, 2015, several figures used in determining Medicaid eligibility must be updated. With an increase to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit levels, the Medically Needy income and resource levels will be adjusted accordingly.

Effective January 1, 2015, Medicaid eligibility must be determined using the following figures:

1. Medically Needy Income and Resource Levels

MEDICALLY NEEDED INCOME LEVEL

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	RESOURCES
ONE	9,900	825	14,850
TWO	14,500	1,209	21,750
THREE	16,675	1,390	
FOUR	18,850	1,571	
FIVE	21,025	1,753	
SIX	23,200	1,934	
SEVEN	25,375	2,115	
EIGHT	27,550	2,296	
NINE	29,725	2,478	
TEN	31,900	2,659	
EACH ADD'L PERSON	2,175	182	

2. The Supplemental Security Income federal benefit rate (FBR) for an individual living alone is \$733 and \$1,100 for a couple.

3. The allocation amount is \$384, the difference between the Medicaid income level for a household of two and one.

4. The 249e factors are .968 and .160.

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 standard Medicare Part B monthly premium will remain \$104.90 in 2015. The Medicare Part A premium is \$224/month for 2015 for individuals having 30-39 work quarters. This is a \$10 decrease from 2014. The Medicare Part A premium will be \$407/month for those who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free hospital insurance and have less than 30 work quarters. This is a decrease of \$19 from 2014.

8. The Maximum federal Community Spouse Resource Allowance is \$119,220.

9. The Minimum State Community Spouse Resource Allowance remains \$74,820.

10. The community spouse Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMMNA) is \$2,980.50.

11. Maximum Family Member Allowance is \$656 until the FPLs for 2015 are published in the Federal Register

12. Family Member Allowance formula number is \$1,967 until the FPLs for 2015 are published in the Federal Register.

13. Personal Needs Allowance for certain waiver participants subject to spousal impoverishment budgeting is \$384.

14. Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA): Non-Blind \$1,090/month, Blind \$1,820/month, Trial Work Period (TWP) \$780/month.

15. SSI-related student earned income disregard limit of \$1,780/monthly up to a maximum of \$7,180/annually.

16. The home equity limit for Medicaid coverage of nursing facility services and community-based long-term care is \$828,000

3. GIS 14 MA/028: 2014 Update to the Actuarial Life Expectancy Table was effective immediately upon issuance.

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is to provide local departments of social services with the updated life expectancy table issued by the Office of the Chief Actuary of the Social Security Administration (SSA).

As advised in Administrative Directive 06 OMM/ADM-5, "Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 - Long-Term Care Medicaid Eligibility," the life expectancy table issued by SSA is required to be used in evaluating whether an annuity purchased by or on behalf of an applicant/recipient on or after February 8, 2006 is actuarially sound. The table is also used in determining whether the repayment term for a promissory note, loan or mortgage is actuarially sound.

The life expectancy table that was attached to 06 OMM/ADM-5 as Attachment VIII, is being updated to reflect the current information obtained from the Office of the Chief Actuary of the Social Security Administration.