



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-08-2019*

TO: All DMMA Staff

DATE: October 21, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 SSI Related Income Standards and Medicare Premiums

BACKGROUND

The Social Security Administration will implement an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2020. 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 2020 is 1.6 percent.

DISCUSSION

The new SSI standard effective January 1, 2020 will be \$ 783.00 for an individual and \$1,175.00 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.

\$783.00 for an individual	\$1,175.00 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 2020 is as follows:

\$1,957.50 for an individual	\$ 2,937.50 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 2020, the income standards with the \$20.00 disregard are as follows:

\$1,977.50 for an individual	\$2,957.50 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 2020 Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A \$458.00

Part B \$144.60

(For individuals earning less than \$ 87,000 annually)

ACTION REQUIRED

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

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

Laura Hendrick
(302) 514-4566

November, 2019
DATE



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