



AGENCY LETTER

AGENCY LETTER NUMBER: 17- 001.1

SUPERSEDES NUMBER: HCPF 15 – 011 AND 17-001

DATE: 02/16/2017

DIVISION OR OFFICE: HEALTH INFORMATION OFFICE ELIGIBILITY DIVISION

SUBJECT AREA: MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

SUBJECT: 2017 SOCIAL SECURITY COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS

TYPE: I – INFORMATION

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Purpose:

The purpose of this agency letter is to rescind and correct agency letter HCPF 17-001. This letter corrects the 300% income limit from \$2,006 to \$2,005. This letter is meant to advise eligibility sites of the 2017 Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA). Please share this agency letter with all affected Adult and Long-Term Care Medicaid eligibility staff, supervisors, and outside agencies, as appropriate.

Background:

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits will increase due to a COLA of .03% (three tenths of one percent) in 2017. The purpose of the COLA is to ensure that the purchasing power of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits is not eroded by inflation. It is based on the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers from the third quarter of the last year a COLA was determined to the third quarter of the current year.

The 300% income limit, home equity maximum, minimum monthly maintenance needs allowance maximum and the community spouse resource allowance will also increase. The Medicare Part B premium will also increase.

Beginning January 1, 2017, the Medicare Nursing Facility Co-Insurance Rate and the Income Trust Gross Income Limits and Average Nursing Facility Private Pay Rates will change. Additionally, the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) base amount for residents of

Nursing and Intermediate Care Facilities will increase by 3% setting the 2017 PNA Base Amount at \$81.95.

Procedure or Information:

Supplemental Security Income Limits

	Effective January 1, 2017
Individual in own home	\$735
Individual in home of another	\$491
Couple in own home	\$1,103
Couple in home of another	\$735
In-kind Support and Maintenance maximum (ISM)	\$265
300% limit	\$2,205
Old Age Pension	\$773

Nursing Facility

Income Trust Gross Income Limits and Average Private Pay Rate

	January 2016	January 2017
Region I Counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver and Jefferson	\$8,287	\$8,730
Region II Counties: Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Grand, Jackson, Kit Carson, Larimer, Logan, Morgan, Park, Phillips, Sedgwick, Summit, Washington, Weld and Yuma	\$7,781	\$7,776
Region III Counties: Alamosa, Baca, Bent, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Crowley, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Kiowa, Lake, Las Animas, Lincoln, Mineral, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Saguache, and Teller	\$6,930	\$7,352
Region IV Counties: Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, Eagle, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mesa, Moffat, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, San Juan and San Miguel	\$7,256	\$7,559
Average Private Pay Rate	\$7,563	\$7,854

Medicare

	January 2016	January 2017
Medicare Part A – Hospital Insurance Seniors and certain individuals under 65 with fewer than 30 work quarters of Medicare covered employment	\$411	\$413
Medicare Part B Physician services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health services, durable medical equipment and other items	\$104.90 and \$121.80	\$109.40 and \$134
Medicare Skilled Nursing Facility Co-insurance Days 21 thru 100 each benefit period	\$161	\$164.50

Spousal Protection

	January 1, 2016	January 1, 2017
Community Spouse Resource Allowance (CSRA)	\$119,220	\$120,900
Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (Maximum)	\$2,981	\$3,023

	July 1, 2015	July 1, 2016
Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMMNA)	\$1,992	\$2,003
Shelter Allowance (30% of MMMNA)	\$598	\$601

Home Equity Maximum

January 1, 2016	January 1, 2017
\$552,000	\$560,000

Nursing and Intermediate Care Facility Personal Needs Allowance (PNA)

2016 PNA base amount	Adjustment percent	2017 PNA
\$79.57	3%	\$81.95

Effective Date:

January 1, 2017

Contact:

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