



OPERATIONAL MEMO

OPERATIONAL MEMO NUMBER: HCPF OM 19-013

TITLE: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE – MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM AND LOW INCOME SUBSIDY

SUPERSEDES NUMBER: N/A

ISSUE DATE: MARCH 28, 2019

EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 1, 2019

DIVISION AND OFFICE: HEALTH INFORMATION OFFICE

PROGRAM AREA: ELIGIBILITY POLICY

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KEY WORDS: 2019 INCOME LIMITS

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Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this memo is to advise county departments of human/social services and Medical Assistance sites of the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) and Low Income Subsidy (LIS) income limits. MSP Categories include: Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB), Specified Low-income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB), Qualified Individuals (QI-1) and Qualified Disabled Working Individuals (QDWI). Please share this memo letter with anyone who works with these programs.

Background:

The income limits for the QMB, SLMB, QI-1, QDWI and LIS programs are based on federal poverty level (FPL) guidelines that are updated annually. The 2019 guidelines were published on February 1, 2019, (Federal Register, Volume 84, No. 22, page 1167 - 1168). The MSP income limits listed below include the \$20 unearned income disregard.

Information/Procedure:

Medicare Savings Program

		2018	2019			2018	2019
QMB	Individual	\$1,032	\$1,061	SLMB	Individual	\$1,234	\$1,269
	Couple	\$1,392	\$1,430		Couple	\$1,666	\$1,711

		2018	2019			2018	2019
QI-1	Individual	\$1,386	\$1,426	QDWI	Individual	\$2,044	\$2,102
	Couple	\$1,872	\$1,923		Couple	\$2,764	\$2,839

Low Income Subsidy

Year		2018	2019
	Individual	\$1,518	\$1,562
	Couple	\$2,058	\$2,114

Effective Date:

April 1, 2019

Attachments:

None

Department Contact:

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