

NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
CHANGE NO. 01-13

DATE: APRIL 11, 2013

Manual: State/County Special Assistance
Subject: SSI 2013 Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)
Updates in the Special Assistance Manual
To: County Directors of Social Services
Effective: 01- 01- 2013 and upon receipt

I. BACKGROUND

Effective January 1, 2013, SSI, RSDI, and most VA beneficiaries received a 1.7% cost of living allowance (COLA) increase. This increase created a new SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) and was addressed in DAAS Administrative Letter 12-15, Social Security COLA 2013 and VA COLA 2013 for Special Assistance (SA) Program. This change notice incorporates the new FBR into the appropriate SA policy sections.

All references to "FL-2/MR-2" have been changed to simply "FL-2" throughout policy. Several updates to telephone numbers and addresses in various sections have been made.

II. CONTENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGE

A. This change notice addresses the 2013 FBR in SA-3210, Income, SA-3220, Budgeting Principles, and SA-3300, Administration of Checks and Payments.

1. All references to SSI-only FBRs have been updated from \$698 to \$710 throughout SA policy.
2. All references to SSI and other income FBRs have been updated from \$718 to \$730 throughout SA Policy.
3. All budgeting examples have been updated to reflect the new SSI FBR.

B. This change notice updates several policy sections as indicated below.

1. SA 3100, Eligibility Requirements:

- a. Deleted the statement that Medicaid provides coverage for personal care services (PCS) and other Medicaid covered services. This was removed due to the change in Medicaid PCS for adult care home residents effective January 1, 2013.

- b. Instructs the county to now contact a Special Assistance Program Representative for questions regarding NCGS 108A-47.
2. **SA-3200, Resources**: A note has been added under V. B. 3.: *The reserve reduction is effective the first day of the month that the life insurance company acknowledges the ownership transfer.*
3. **SA-3205, Transfer of Resources**:
 - a. Clarification provided to include definition of “child” in determining if the transfer of resource is allowable or non-allowable.
 - b. The telephone number for the Division of Medical Assistance Third Party Recovery Section has been updated.
4. **SA-3300, Administration of Checks and Payments**: Updated the DHHS Controller’s office telephone number.

III. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL

The following manual sections are reissued to reflect the changes:

[SA 3100- Eligibility Requirements](#)

[SA-3200- Resources](#)

[SA-3205-Transfer of Resources](#)

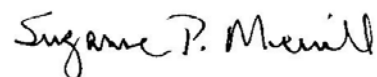
[SA-3210- Income](#)

[SA-3220-Budgeting Principles](#)

[SA-3300-Administration of Checks and Payments](#)

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the SA Program Unit at specialassistance@dhhs.nc.gov

Sincerely,



Suzanne P. Merrill, Chief
Adult Services Section