

DHB ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 04-20, SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT STANDARDS

DATE: September 15, 2020

SUBJECT: 2020 Spousal Impoverishment Standards

DISTRIBUTION: County Directors
Medicaid Supervisors
Medicaid Staff

I. BACKGROUND

The Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMNA) and excess shelter allowance are adjusted annually in accordance with the changes in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) federal benefit rate and the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Section 1924 of the Social Security Act directs that these adjustments are effective July 1st of each year.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. The Basic Spousal Allowance is \$2,155 effective July 1, 2020.

B. The Excess Shelter Cost is \$646.00 effective July 1, 2020.

1. For applications, use the new amounts when determining eligibility for all months beginning July 1, 2020.
2. For existing cases, apply the new amounts at the first change in situation or review effective on or after July 1, 2020.

C. NC FAST system is currently updated with 2020 Spousal Impoverishment Standards amounts effective July 1, 2020.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your [Medicaid Operational Support Team Representative](#).

DocuSigned by:

Dave Richard

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Dave Richard
Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance