

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 08-26, 2026 SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT STANDARDS

DATE: June 16, 2026

Manual: Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid

Change No: 08-26

To: County Directors of Social Services

I. BACKGROUND AND CONTENT OF CHANGE

The basic spousal allowance, maximum dependent allowance and excess shelter allowance are adjusted annually in accordance with the changes in 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 1 each year.

II. POLICY UPDATE

MA-2270 LONG TERM CARE NEED AND BUDGETING policy has been updated with the 2026 standard amounts needed to complete the DHB-5008c Spouse and Dependent Income Allowance Worksheet.

- MA-2270.VI. B.2., The basic spousal allowance increased from \$2644 to \$2705.
- MA-2270 VI. C.2., The monthly shelter standard increased from \$794 to \$812.
- MA-2270 VII. A.2., The maximum monthly dependent allowance increased from \$882 to \$902.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Apply the new amounts in determining the spousal and dependent income allowance and shelter standard effective July 1, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding information in this letter, please contact your Operational Support Team Representative.

Signed by:


Sarah Gregosky

Assistant Secretary and Deputy Medicaid Director, NC Medicaid

On behalf of

Melanie Bush

Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid