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Department of Human Services
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DATE: December 18, 2018

NUMBER: QA PI 2018 – 01

TYPE: Program Instruction

SUPERSEDES: QA PI 2017 - 02

SUBJECT: Changes in Room & Board,
MNA, Medicare Premium, and
Medicaid Eligibility Cap for
2019

DISTRIBUTION CODE: I a; II e; IV b, c; V d,
f, g, k l, n, o, p; VI a,
d, e; VII a, f

EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2019

APPLICABILITY: County Welfare Agencies (CWA), Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) Medicaid Waiver Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Adult Family Care Sponsor Agencies, and Assisted Living Residences/Comprehensive Personal Care Home Providers

BACKGROUND: The Room and Board rates, Monthly Needs Allowances, and MLTSS Medicaid Waiver eligibility caps change annually based on the federal Social Security Administration’s cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

It is necessary for County Welfare Agency in-take units to have this updated information in a timely fashion in order to revise, as instructed and needed, the participants Statement of Available Income (PR-2) for 2019 and to complete new Statement of Available Income (PR-2) for newly eligible members. The Division of Aging Services (DoAS) also sends this information to Assisted Living facilities and Adult Family Care providers.

The COLA for 2019 is 2.8% for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries.

Medicare Part B premium for beneficiaries’ after January 1, 2019 is \$135.50.

The 2019 gross monthly income cap for MLTSS Medicaid Waiver eligibility is \$2,313.00.

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION: See attached Cost Share Information Grid.



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To: Distribution
From: Louise Rush, Director *LR*
Division of Aging Services (DoAS)
Date: December 18, 2018
Subject: Cost Share Information - 2019

The chart below provides specific information for 2019 to complete Cost Share Worksheets (PR-2 form) for Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) Medicaid Waiver participants receiving either Assisted Living (AL) or Adult Family Care (AFC) services. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments are the basis for the standard deductions permitted when computing cost share.

	SSI Federal Payment	plus SSI State Supplement	Total "SSI Only" payment	Room and Board	Monthly Needs Allowance
Assisted Living Residence (ALR)	\$771	\$150.05	\$921.05	\$806.55	\$114.50
Comprehensive Personal Care Home (CPCH)	\$771	\$150.05	\$921.05	\$806.55	\$114.50
Adult Family Care (AFC)	\$771	\$31.25	\$802.25	\$687.75	\$114.50

- The Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2019 is 2.8% for Social Security and SSI beneficiaries.
- Medicare Part B premium for beneficiaries' after January 1, 2019 is \$135.50.
- The gross monthly income cap for MLTSS Medicaid Waiver eligibility is \$2,313.
- A husband and wife in an ALR/CPCH will be viewed as a couple for the first month of eligibility when applying for the SSI supplement for room and board. The joint incomes should not exceed \$1,666 and joint assets may not exceed \$3,000. The next month they will be treated as individuals and all criteria for individual eligibility will apply.
- Reminder for those AL facilities that engage in Room & Board Supplementation: If your published rates have or will increase for 2019, please fax a copy of the new fee schedule to the Division of Aging Services at 609-588-7683.

The amounts included here are effective January 1, 2019.

Distribution:
DoAS Office of Community Choice Options
County AAA Executive Directors
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Medicaid Managed Care Organizations
AL/AFC Medicaid Providers

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