



Mike DeWine, Governor
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Maureen M. Corcoran, Director

Medicaid Eligibility Procedure Letter No. 153

Effective Date: October 1, 2020

Issue Date: October 1, 2020

OAC Rules: 5160:1-6-07 and 5160:1-6-07.1

To: All Medicaid Eligibility Manual Holders

From: Maureen M. Corcoran, Director

Subject: 2020 Standard Utility Allowance Increases

Reason for Change: The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Family Assistance, with approval from the federal Food and Nutrition Services (FNS), is increasing the Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) from \$548 to \$553 effective October 1, 2020.

For Medicaid purposes, the SUA is used in the determination of the monthly income allowance (MIA) for the community spouse in long-term care (LTC) budgeting. Changes to the MIA amount may affect the patient liability for the LTC individual.

Action Required: A mass change was run on all LTC cases that contain a community spouse prior to the last day of adverse action for September, making any adjustments in the patient liability amount effective October 1, 2020. A notice of action (NOA) was generated advising of any changes. If there were no changes to the program block as a result of the mass change, a NOA was not generated. A journal entry was automatically entered following the successful mass change.

An alert or report was provided for LTC program blocks that contain a community spouse and were excluded from the mass change batch. The assigned workers should have run manual Eligibility Determination Budget Calculation (EDBC) on these cases, issued NOAs, and documented with a journal entry.

The information is also available on the Ohio Department of Medicaid website and may be accessed at:

**RESOURCES > Publications > ODM Guidance > Medicaid Policy > Medicaid Eligibility
Procedure Letter (MEPL)**

<http://medicaid.ohio.gov/RESOURCES/Publications/ODMGuidance.aspx#161542-medicaid-policy>