

Administrative Letter No. DAAS-07- 04 - Change in the Federal Poverty Level for SA In-Home Cases (Obsolete 03/01/2008, Administrative Letter 08-02)

N.C. Division of Aging and Adult Services, Adult Services Section

Date: March 1, 2007
Subject: Change in the Federal Poverty Level for SA In-Home Cases
Distribution: County Directors,
Special Assistance Supervisors
Adult Services Supervisors
Effective Date: April 1, 2007

Effective April 1, 2007, the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) will increase from \$817 to \$851 per month for an individual. The purpose of this letter is to advise how this change will affect SA In-Home (SA/IH) cases.

The income limit, which is equal to the Federal Poverty Level, for an individual to qualify for the SA In-Home Program will increase to \$851 effective April 1, 2007.

The poverty level is also the Domiciliary Rate that is entered in EIS for authorized SA/IH cases.

Please note that the new individual FPL of \$851 per month will not affect payments or eligibility for current SA/IH recipients. However, it could affect SA/IH applicants beginning April 1, 2007 whose total countable income is higher than the old individual FPL of \$817. These applicants may now qualify for Medicaid, and therefore for SA/IH payments if their total countable monthly income meets the new Medicaid categorically needy income limits, and they meet all other Medicaid and SA/IH eligibility requirements.

The maximum SA/IH payment is calculated by subtracting the individual's Total Countable Monthly Income (TCMI) from the SA/ACH Basic Maintenance Amount, and then multiplying the remainder by .75. The SA/ACH Basic Maintenance Amount is \$1,194 (\$1,148 + \$46 Personal Needs Allowance). The actual payment, not to exceed the maximum allowable payment, is determined by the Adult Services case manager based on the comprehensive assessment and service plan.

I. SA/IH Cases Active on March 30, 2007

The following automated changes will be made in EIS to all SA/IH cases (ambulation capacity code 'H') that are active in EIS on March 30, 2007.

The Domiciliary Rate will change from \$817 to \$851.

B. A Case Profile will be created for each updated case, with the message:
MASS CHANGE DUE TO SA IN-HOME RATE CHANGE.

C. A report will be created in NCXPTR identifying the SA/IH cases that updated during the mass change. The report is entitled 'DHREJA SA DEMO IN-HOME RATE CHAN'. This report will be available April 3, 2007. The report is sorted by county, district number, and in alphabetical order by Casehead Payee. The report will include:

1. Casehead Payee Name
2. Case ID Number

3. Old Domiciliary Rate
4. New Domiciliary Rate
5. District Number

D. There will be a report in NCXPTR identifying the SAA and SAD cases that were not updated in the mass change due to a pending DSS-8125. The report is entitled 'DHREJA SA IN-HOME ERROR RPT'. This report will be available April 2, 2007. The report is sorted by county, district number, and is in alphabetical order by Casehead Payee Name. Items on the report include:

Casehead Payee Name
Case ID Number
Old Domiciliary Rate
District Number
Error Message: 8125 Pending

II. SA/IH Applications Pending on April 1, 2007

Determine eligibility for SA/IH payments using the new income limit of \$851 for April 1, 2007 and later. For months prior to April 2007, determine eligibility using the income limit of \$817.

If eligible, approve the SA/IH application with a Payment Effective Date of 04/2007 (or later if eligibility begins in a later month).

1. The Total Countable Monthly Income cannot be greater than \$851.
2. The Domiciliary Rate must be \$851.
3. The SA/IH Maintenance Amount cannot be greater than \$1108. The Maintenance Amount must equal the Total Countable Monthly Income + the SA/IH payment amount.

The maximum SA/IH Maintenance Amount is determined by calculating the payment for a recipient with the highest allowable income.

The maximum allowable payment for an individual with \$851 TCMI is \$257.00, and is calculated as follows:

$\$1,194 - \$851 = \$343 \times 0.75$ (75% of the maximum ACH Basic payment for this income amount) = \$257.25 rounded to the nearest dollar = \$257.00.
The maximum SA/IH Maintenance Amount is $\$851.00 + \$257.00 = \$1108.00$.

If the applicant is eligible for an SA/IH payment for months prior to April 1, 2007, authorize payments for those months in the "Retro" fields on the DSS-8125.

III. Redeterminations and Changes in Situation

For regular reviews and for changes in situation, determine eligibility for SA/IH payments using the new income limit of \$851 for April 1, 2007 and later. For months prior to April 2007, determine eligibility using the income limit of \$817.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Adult Programs Representative, or Brenda Porter, SA Program Coordinator at (919) 733-3818.

Sincerely,



Dennis W. Streets
Director