# DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 05-18, SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT STANDARDS

DATE: June 1, 2018

SUBJECT: 2018 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 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<sup>st</sup> of each year.

# II. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE AND IMPLEMENTATION

## A. The Basic Spousal Allowance is \$2,058.00 effective July 1, 2018.

#### B. The Excess Shelter Costs is \$618.00 effective July 1, 2018.

- 1. For applications, use the new amounts when determining eligibility for all months beginning July 1, 2018.
- 2. For existing cases, apply the new amounts at the first change in situation or review effective on or after July 1, 2018.

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

Dave Richard Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance