# County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Medi-Cal Program Special Notice January 2015 Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) Number Page and Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Increases 15-04 1 of 3

### Issue Date:

June 2, 2015

#### **Effective Date:**

- January 1, 2015 for Social Security adjustments, Medicare Savings Program (MSP) applicants and beneficiaries who do not receive Title II (Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance [RSDI]) income, applicants/beneficiaries whose Medi-Cal eligibility is determined based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodologies, and the Statewide Average Private Pay Rate (APPR) for Nursing Facility Services
- March 1, 2015 for MSP applicants and beneficiaries who receive Title II income
- April 1, 2015 for FPL increases

### **Background:**

Each year, Social Security adjusts the benefit amounts for Title II and Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income [SSI]) to follow the Consumer Price Index.

Also, each year the FPLs and APPR are adjusted to allow for changes in the cost of living.

#### Purpose:

To inform staff of the changes in the following amounts:

- Social Security Title II
- Social Security Title XVI
- Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)
- Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)
- Medicare Part A and B premiums
- Pickle Disregards
- SSI Standard Allocation and Parental Allocation
- FPLs
- APPR

#### Policy:

Effective January 1, 2015:

- The Social Security Title II and Title XVI benefits had a +1.7% COLA
- The SGA amount increased to \$1,090 for the sighted and \$1,820 for the blind
- The FBR increased to \$733 for an individual and \$1,100 for a couple
- The Medicare Part B premium remained at \$104.90
- The Medicare Part A premium decreased to \$407
- The reduced Medicare Part A premium decreased to \$224
- The Medicare Part A Inpatient Care Deductible increased to:
  - \$1,260 per day for 0-60 days
  - \$315 per day for 61-90 days
  - \$630 per day for 91-150 days
- The Medicare Part A Skilled Nursing Facility Care Deductible increased to \$157.50 per day for 21-100 days
- The Pickle Disregard Computation Chart is Attachment A

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- The Standard/Parental Allocation:
  - One ineligible parent lives with the child \$733
  - Both ineligible parents live with the child \$1,100
- New FPL amounts apply for MSP applicants/beneficiaries who do not receive Title II income and applicants/beneficiaries whose Medi-Cal eligibility is determined based on MAGI methodologies
- APPR is \$8,092

Effective March 1, 2015, new FPL amounts apply for MSP applicants/beneficiaries who receive Title II income.

Effective April 1, 2015:

- Income limits for the Aged and Disabled (A&D) FPL Program are:
  - o Individual \$1,211
  - o Couple \$1,328
- New FPL limits for the A&D FPL apply

Use the new figures from above for new applications in which EDBC is run in May 2015 and ongoing. For ongoing cases, the new figures will be used after the COLA run during the weekend of June 6, 2015.

### **Procedure:**

Use the:

- SSI/SSP cash grant levels for January 2015 (Attachment B) when computing Pickle, Disabled Adult Child, Disabled Widow, and 250% Working Disabled Program eligibility
- Social Security and Medicare premium amounts when determining eligibility and/or share of cost (SOC)
- Increased FPL amounts for FPL programs effective April 1, 2015
- 2015 APPR to calculate the period of ineligibility (POI) for transfers of nonexempt property or less that fair market value

#### Impacts:

#### **Automation:**

The SSA income was updated in December 2014, but there was no COLA run. The FPL tables were updated in CalWIN the weekend of April 12, 2015. The COLAs will be run the weekend of June 6, 2015. CalHEERS updated the FPLs the weekend of May 2, 2015. The increased amount will be compared with the updated FPL levels effective July 2015. There will not be a retroactive COLA.

The following case types will be included in the COLA run:

- Non-MAGI
- Mixed Medi-Cal (MAGI and non-MAGI)
- Non-MAGI and APTC

The following case types will be excluded in the COLA run:

- MAGI only
- Mixed (MAGI and APTC)
- Pre-ACA (no evaluation for MAGI completed)

# County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Medi-Cal Program Special Notice January 2015 Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) Number Page and Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Increases 15-04 3 of 3

The exception lists and instructions for handling cases that exception out of the COLA run will be issued separately.

## **Forms and Document Capture:**

No impact.

### **Other Programs Affected:**

No impact.

### **Quality Control:**

Effective with the July 2015 review month, Quality Control will cite with the appropriate error any case that does not follow the requirements of the SN.

## **Management Reporting:**

No impact.

#### References:

ACWDLs <u>15-08</u>, <u>15-08E</u>, <u>15-12</u>, <u>15-13</u>, <u>15-13E</u>, <u>15-14</u>, and <u>15-17</u>

### **Sunset Date:**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by May 31, 2018.

-,6-1-15

## **Approval for Release:**

Rick Wanne, Director Eligibility Operations

# **2015 PICKLE MULTIPLIERS**

2015 Values for computing Pickle In-Kind Support and Maintenance

Date of Last SSI	Cost of Living Amount	Multiplier
1/14 through 12/14	1.017	0.0167
1/13 through 12/13	1.015	0.0312
1/12 through 12/12	1.017	0.0474
1/11 through 12/11	1.036	0.0805
1/10 through 12/10	1	0.0805
1/09 through 12/09	1	0.0805
1/08 through 12/08	1.058	0.1309
1/07 through 12/07	1.023	0.1505
1/06 through 12/06	1.033	0.1776
1/05 through 12/05	1.041	0.21
1/04 through 12/04	1.027	0.2308
1/03 through 12/03	1.021	0.2466
1/02 through 12/02	1.014	0.257
1/01 through 12/01	1.026	0.2758
1/00 through 12/00	1.035	0.3003
1/99 through 12/99	1.024	0.3167
1/98 through 12/98	1.013	0.3255
1/97 through 12/97	1.021	0.3394
1/96 through 12/96	1.029	0.358
1/95 through 12/95	1.026	0.3743
1/94 through 12/94	1.028	0.3913
1/93 through 12/93	1.026	0.4067
1/92 through 12/92	1.03	0.424
1/91 through 12/91	1.037	0.4446
1/90 through 12/90	1.054	0.473
1/89 through 12/89	1.047	0.4967
1/88 through 12/88	1.04	0.516
1/87 through 12/87	1.042	0.5355
1/86 through 12/86	1.013	0.5415
1/85 through 12/85	1.031	0.5553
1/84 through 12/84	1.035	0.5703
7/82 through 12/83	1.035	0.5848
7/81 through 6/82	1.074	0.6135
7/80 through 6/81	1.112	0.6524
7/79 through 6/80	1.143	0.6959
7/78 through 6/79	1.099	0.7233
7/77 through 6/78	1.065	0.7402
4/77 through 6/77	1.059	0.7546

#### **2015 SSI/SSP PAYMENT STANDARDS**

								endent Liv			dical Board		
Independent Living				Household of Another			Arrange	ement Wit	hout	Licensed Facility/Household of			
Arrangement			With In-Kind Room and Board			Cooking Facilities (RMA) <sup>1</sup>			Relative Without In-Kind				
		3. 3.					3	(	′	Room & Board			
	Total	SSI	SSP	TOTAL	SSI	SSP	TOTAL	SSI	SSP	TOTAL	SSI	SSP	
	Total	(FBR)	001	TOTAL	(FBR)	001	1017/L	(FBR)	001	TOTAL	(FBR)	001	
INDIVIDUAL:													
-Aged or													
Disabled	889.40	733.00	156.40	658.67			973.40	733.00	240.40	1,145.00	733.00	412.00	
-Blind	944.40			739.67						1,145.00	733.00	412.00	
-Disabled													
Minor*	796.40	733.00	63.40	555.50	488.67	66.83				1,145.00	733.00	412.00	
-NMOHC <sup>2</sup>				895.67	488.67	407.00				,			
COUPLE:													
Both are:													
Aged or													
Disabled -								4 400 00	564.20				
Per Couple	1,524.00			1,233.33			1664.20	1,100.00	001.20	2,290.00	1,100.00	1,190.00	
BLIND:													
Couple-Both are													
Blind -													
Per Couple	1,751.00			1,374.00						2,290.00	1,100.00	1,190.00	
BLIND/AGED													
OR DISABLED:													
Couple One is													
Blind, the Other													
is Aged or													
Disabled -	1,666.00			1,767.00						2,290.00	1,100.00	1,190.00	
Per Couple	.,000.00			.,,						2,200.00	1,100.00	.,	
NMOHC <sup>2</sup>													
Per Couple													
i oi coapic													

#### NONMEDICAL BOARD AND CARE

### FEDERAL BENEFIT RATE (FBR)

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	INDIVIDUAL:	\$733.00
TOTAL:	\$1,145.00	\$1,145.00	Aged, Blind, or Disabled	
Board and Room	\$492.00	\$492.00	-	
Care and Supervision	\$422.00	\$522.00		
Personal and Incidental Needs	\$131.00	\$231.00	COUPLE:	\$1,100.00
			Aged, Blind, Or Disabled	
Title XIX Medical Facility – Individ	dual \$50.00 Coup	ole \$100.00		

Independent living arrangement for a disabled minor means living in the home of his/her parents. Household of another is used if both the disabled minor and his/her parents live in the household of someone else, i.e., grandparents, etc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RMA – Restaurant Meals Allowance - \$84 Individual; \$168 Couple <sup>2</sup> NMOHC<sup>2</sup> – Nonmedical out-of-home care living in household of relative or guardian with In-Kind Room and Board.

	Monthly Maintenance Need Income Level (MNIL) & Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Chart – Effective 4/1/15																				
HH Size	MNIL	60%	100%	108%	109%	114%	120%	128%	133%	135%	138%	142%	150%	160%	185%	200%	208%	213%	250%	266%	322%
1	600	589	981	1060	1070	1119	1177	1256	1305	1325	1354	1393	1472	1570	1815	1962	2041	2090	2453	2610	3159
2	750	797	1328	1434	1447	1514	1593	1700	1766	1793	1832	1886	1992	2124	2456	2655	2762	2828	3319	3532	4275
2 Adults	934	797	1328	1434	1447	1514	1593	1700	1766	1793	1832	1886	1992	2124	2456	2655	2762	2828	3319	3532	4275
3	934	1005	1675	1809	1825	1909	2009	2143	2227	2261	2311	2378	2512	2679	3098	3349	3483	3566	4186	4454	5391
4	1100	1213	2021	2183	2203	2304	2425	2587	2688	2729	2789	2870	3032	3234	3739	4042	4204	4305	5053	5376	6508
5	1259	1421	2368	2557	2581	2699	2841	3031	3149	3197	3268	3362	3552	3788	4380	4735	4925	5043	5919	6298	7624
6	1417	1629	2715	2932	2959	3095	3257	3475	3610	3665	3746	3855	4072	4343	5022	5429	5646	5782	6786	7220	8740
7	1550	1837	3061	3306	3337	3490	3673	3918	4071	4133	4224	4347	4592	4898	5663	6122	6367	6520	7653	8142	9856
8	1692	2045	3408	3681	3715	3885	4089	4362	4532	4601	4703	4839	5112	5452	6304	6815	7088	7258	8519	9064	10,973
9	1825	2253	3755	4055	4093	4280	4505	4806	4994	5069	5181	5331	5632	6007	6946	7509	7809	7997	9386	9987	12,089
10	1959	2461	4101	4429	4470	4675	4921	5250	5455	5537	5660	5824	6152	6562	7587	8202	8530	8735	10,253	10,909	13,205
11	1973	2669	4448	4804	4848	5071	5337	5693	5916	6005	6138	6316	6672	7116	8228	8895	9251	9474	11,110	11,931	14,321
12	1987	2877	4795	5178	5226	5466	5753	6137	6377	6473	6616	6808	7192	7671	8870	9589	9972	10,212	11,986	12,753	15,438
Each Additional	14	208	347	375	378	396	416	444	462	468	479	493	520	555	642	694	722	739	867	923	1117

	Annual MNIL & FPL Chart – Effective 4/1/15																			
HH Size	60%	100%	108%	109%	114%	120%	128%	133%	135%	138%	142%	150%	160%	185%	200%	208%	213%	250%	266%	322%
1	7062	11,770	12,712	12,830	13,418	14,124	15,066	15,655	15,890	16,243	16,714	17,655	18,832	21,775	23,540	24,482	25,071	29,425	31,309	37,900
2	9558	15,930	17,205	17,364	18,161	19,116	20,391	21,187	21,506	21,984	22,621	23,895	25,488	29,471	31,860	33,135	33,981	39,825	42,374	51,295
3	12,054	20,090	21,698	21,899	22,903	24,208	25,716	26,720	27,122	27,725	28,528	30,135	32,144	37,167	40,180	41,788	42,792	50,225	53,440	64,690
4	14,550	24,250	26,190	26,433	27,645	29,100	31,040	32,253	32,738	33,465	34,435	36,375	38,800	44,863	48,500	50,440	51,653	60,625	64,505	78,085
5	17,046	28,410	30,683	30,967	32,388	34,092	36,365	37,786	38,354	39,206	40,343	42,615	45,456	52,559	56,820	59,093	60,514	71,025	75,571	91,481
6	19,542	32,570	35,176	35,502	37,130	39,084	41,690	43,319	43,970	44,947	46,250	48,855	52,112	60,255	65,140	67,746	69,375	81,425	86,637	104,876
7	22,038	36,730	39,669	40,036	41,873	44,076	47,015	48,851	49,586	50,688	52,157	55,095	58,768	67,951	73,460	76,399	78,235	91,825	97,702	118,271
8	24,534	40,890	44,162	44,571	46,615	49,068	52,340	54,384	55,202	56,429	58,064	61,335	65,424	75,647	81,780	85,052	87,096	102,225	108,768	131,666
9	27,030	45,050	48,654	49,105	51,357	54,060	57,664	59,917	60,818	62,169	63,971	67,575	72,080	83,343	90,100	93,704	95,957	112,625	119,833	145,061
10	29,526	49,210	53,147	53,639	56,100	59,052	62,989	65,450	66,434	67,910	69,879	73,815	78,736	91,039	98,420	102,357	104,818	123,025	130,899	158,457
11	32,022	53,370	57,640	58,174	60,842	64,044	68,314	70,983	72,050	73,651	75,786	80,055	85,392	98,735	106,740	111,010	113,679	133,425	141,965	171,852
12	34,518	57,530	62,133	62,708	65,585	69,036	73,639	76,515	77,666	79,392	81,693	86,295	92,048	106,431	115,060	119,663	122,539	143,825	153,030	185,247
Each Additional	2496	4160	4493	4535	4743	4992	5325	5533	5616	5741	5908	6240	6656	7696	8320	8653	8861	10,400	11,066	13,396

MN In-	MN In-Kind Income Values – Eff. 7/1/89								
HH Size	Housing	Utilities	Food						
1	153	33	86						
2	206	38	182						
3	225	40	232						
4	236	41	286						
5	236	41	346						
6	236	41	401						
7	236	41	447						
8	236	41	490						
9	236	41	537						
10	236	41	582						

Property Limits – Eff. 1/1/14							
MFBU	Limit						
1 (MN)	\$2,000						
1	\$3,000						
(1931(b))							
2	\$3,000						
3	\$3,150						
4	\$3,300						
5	\$3,450						
6	\$3,600						
7	\$3,750						
8	\$3,900						
9	\$4,050						
10	\$4,200						

MSP Property Limit – Eff. 1/1/14								
MFBU	Limit							
1	\$7,160							
2	\$10,750							
ACWDL 14-07								

MSP Income Levels – Eff. 4/1/15								
Family Size	QMB (100%)	SLMB (120%)	QI (135%)	QWDI (200%)				
1	981	1177	1325	1962				
2	1328	1593	1793	2655				
3	1675	2009	2261	3349				
4	2021	2425	2729	4042				
5	2368	2841	3197	4735				
6	2715	3257	3665	5429				
7	3061	3673	4133	6122				
8	3408	4089	4601	6815				
9	3755	4505	5069	7509				
10	4101	4921	5537	8202				
Additional	347	416	468	694				

A&D FPL Disregards								
Eff Date	Individual	Couple						
4/1/09-	\$230	\$310						
1/1/09- 3/31/09	\$230	\$412						
6/1/08- 12/31/08	\$230	\$391						
4/1/08- 5/31/08	\$230	\$357						

FPLB Income Limits – Eff. 4/1/14							
Family	Amount						
Individual	\$1203						
Couple with one blind person	\$1666						
Couple with two blind people	\$1751						

I	ISM – Eff 1/1/15									
Individual Couple										
VTR	244.33	366.67								
PMV	264.33	386.67								

Allocations – Eff. 1/1/15			
Community Spouse Allocation	2,981		
Family Member Max Allocation	1,967		
Standard Allocation	367		

Federal Benefit Rate			
Year	Individual	Couple	
2015	733	1,100	
2014	721	1,082	
2013	710	1,066	
2012	698	1,048	
2011	674	1,011	
2010	674	1,011	
2009	674	1,011	
2008	637	956	
2007	623	934	
2006	603	904	
2005	579	869	
2004	564	846	

Pickle Disregard				
Last SSI/SSP Check Between	Disregard			
1/14-12/14	.0167			
1/13-12/13	.0312			
1/12-12/12	.0474			
1/11-12/11	.0805			
1/10-12/10	.0805			
1/09-12/09	.0805			
1/08-12/08	.1309			
1/07-12/07	.1505			
1/06-12/06	.1776			
1/05-12/05	.21			
1/04-12/04	.2308			
1/03-12/03	.2466			

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)			
SGA SGA for Blir			
1,090	1,820		

LTC Maintenance Needs				
MNM Individual	ual 35			
SSI Eligible LTC	40			
Home Upkeep				
Living Alone		209		
Shared		138		
Both Spouses LTC		176		

Medicare Premiums			
Part A			
For people who do not receive no-cost	426		
For people with 30-39 quarters of covered	234		
employment			
Part B			
104.90			
Medicare Deductibles			
Part A – Inpatient Care			
Per day for 0-60 days 1	,260		
Per day for 61-90 days	315		
Per day for 91-150 days 630			
Part A – Skilled Nursing Facility			
Care			
Per day for 21-100 days 15	7.50		
Part B Annual Deductible			

CSRA			
Year Rate			
2015	119,200		
2014	117,240		
2013	115,920		
2012	113,640		
2011	109,580		
2010	109,580		
2009	109,580		
2008	104,400		
2007	101,640		
2006	99,540		
2005	92,760		
2004	90,660		

APPR			
Year	Rate		
2015	8092		
2014	7628		
2013	7549		
2012	7092		
2011	6840		
2010	6311		
2009	5698		
2008	5496		
2007	5101		

TB Standards			
Pro	perty		
1	2000		
2	3000		
parent	:S		
Inc	come		
Year			
2012	1481		
2011	1433		
2010	1433		
2009	1433		
2008	1359		
2007 1331			
2006	1291		
2005	1243		
2004	1213		
2003	1189		

ATTACHMENT C-3

1931(b) Income Standards				
HH Size	1931(b) Limit		100%	
1	398		981	
2	653		1328	
3	808		1675	
4	961		2021	
5	1094		2368	
6	1229	OR	2715	
7	1350		3061	
8	1473		3408	
9	1591		3755	
10	1709		4101	
Additional			347	
Effective	12/1/04		4/1/15	

1931(b) Income In-Kind Values – Eff 6/1/99							
HH Size	Size Housing Utilities Food						
1	161	34	90	27			
2	217	39	191	52			
3	237	42	244	79			
4	248	44	301	105			
5	248	44	363	133			
6	248	44	422	157			
7	248	44	470	187			
8	248	44	515	209			
9	248	44	565	239			
10	248	44	612	261			

1931(b) Sneede v. Kizer Income/Property Prorations						
No. of Kids in MBU	Eff 12/1/04		Eff 4/1/15		Property	
	1931(b) Limits		100%			
	1 Parent	2 parents	1 Parent	2 Parents	1 Parent	2 Parents
1	327	270	664	558	1500	1050
2	539	481	1117	1011	2100	1650
3	721	657	1516	1421	2475	2070
4	876	820	1617	1810	2760	2400
5	1025	965	1973	2186	3000	2679
6	1158	1105	2327	2556	3215	2925
7	1289	1238	2678	2921	3413	3150
8	1415	1368	2140	3281	3600	3360
9	1539	1399	3380	3639	3780	3437
10	1554	1425	3728	3996	3819	3500
Additional	Contact Medi-Cal	Program for amount	3	47	Contact Medi-Cal	Program for amount