**Policy Clarification**

**Medical Assistance**

**Long-Term Care – PMN-21782-468**

**Submitted: May 1, 2024 Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Revised Spousal Maintenance Allowance Effective July 1, 2024**

**Question: 1) Have the Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MinMMNA), Excess Shelter Standard, and Dependent Allowance figures under Spousal Impoverishment changed for July 1, 2024?**

**2) How must caseworkers process retroactive openings after the July mass change?**

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| **Response By: Division of Health Services** | **Date: May 23, 2024** |  |  |
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1. Yes, the amounts will increase effective July 1, 2024, and have been updated in the Electronic Client Information System. The new amounts are as follows:

* MinMMNA: **$2,555.00**
* Excess Monthly Shelter Standard: **$767.00**
* Dependent Living with Community Spouse Allowance: **$2,555.00**

1. When the caseworker needs to process a retroactive opening for Long-Term Care and the start date entered on the Program Request screen is for May 2024 or prior, the caseworker must use a two-step process:

* Open non-continuous eligibility periods from the start of the retroactive period until June 30, 2024, then,
* Open an ongoing request with a July 1, 2024, start date.

The two-step process ensures that the correct reference table values for the MinMMNA, Excess Monthly Shelter Standard, and Dependent Living with Community Spouse Allowance are used in the eligibility determination.

If the start date entered on the Program Request screen is in June 2024 or later, then the eligibility determination will use the correct reference table values.

Failure to follow this process for retroactive openings will lead to an incorrectly increased cost of care for the period beginning July 1, 2024, because eligibility will use only the reference table values effective July 1, 2023.

This clarification supersedes [PMN 21394-468](https://pagov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/DHS-OIM/Policy%20Clarifications/Revised%20Spousal%20Maintenance%20Allowance%20Effective%20July%201,%202023.docx?d=w4e549046670e4cb8a6398f9e92f8b12a&csf=1&web=1&e=QKbzcv), which is obsolete.