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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
*DIVISION OF LONG TERM SUPPORTS AND SERVICES*  
*BUREAU OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES*

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Date: December 29, 2023

To: AA Benefits Specialists, AA Business Managers, AA Service Coordination Supervisors, BDS Liaisons, and NH Guardianship Agencies

From: Melissa Morin, Program Planning & Review Specialist  
NH Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS)

Re: **2024 Standard of Need and Income Changes**

The Division of Economic Stability (DES), Bureau of Family Assistance (BFA) has announced there is a 3.2% increase for 2024 in Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, and the Standard of Need (SON) for individuals receiving financial assistance under New Hampshire's Adult Assistance categories. SSA/SSI benefit levels will increase from \$914 to **\$943** per month.

The SON levels for individuals eligible for Medicaid under Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD), Old Age Assistance (OAA), and Aid to the Needy Blind (ANB) are as follows:

For an individual in independent living;

- **\$957 per month** formerly \$928

For an individual living in an He-M 1001 Certified Staffed Residence, He-M 521 Certified Family Setting, or He-M 525 Certified Family Setting with a residential service;

- **\$1,019 per month** formerly \$990

For an individual living in an He-M 1001 Certified Enhanced Family Care residence, or an He-M 525 Certified Enhanced Family Care residence.

- **\$1,137 per month** formerly \$1,108

BDS will apply the \$29/month increase to the Residential Fees. **Residential fees will be increased as listed below:**

- **\$824** formerly \$795, for He-M 1001 Certified Staffed Residences, He-M 521 Certified Family Setting; or He-M 525 Certified Family Setting with a residential service; and

- **\$942** formerly \$913, for individuals in He-M 1001 Certified Enhanced Family Care Residences or He-M 525 Certified Enhanced Family Care residences.

Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for individuals receiving BDS Waiver Services will remain unchanged at \$195/month for individuals residing in a staffed residence or enhance family care home. Individuals living independently or in their family's home will have a PNA equal to the Nursing Facility Cap.

The Nursing Facility (NF) Cap, used for Medicaid financial eligibility determinations has increased to **\$2,829** from \$2,742 per month; GROSS income must be equal to or less than **\$2,829**/month. Individuals with monthly income in excess of \$2,829 may be able to "Spend Down" to the Protected Income Limit (PIL) to gain Medicaid eligibility; the PIL remains unchanged at \$888 per month.

The **Substantial Gainful Activity** (SGA) amount, used during initial APTD eligibility determinations, has increased to **\$1,550** from \$1,470 per month.

A reminder that effective January 1, 2012, HCBS Waiver participants who have a Medicaid and Medicare Part D prescription plans do not have medication co-pays for Part D covered medications.

The **Medicare Part B** standard monthly premium cost:

- Increases to **\$174.70** from \$164.90 for:
  - new enrollees in Part B in 2024;
  - people who do and do not have their Part B premiums deducted from Social Security benefits;
  - those individuals who are not collecting Social Security benefits;
  - individuals with annual incomes that are less than or equal to \$103,000; and
  - dual-eligible, which are people eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare.

If you have questions, you may contact Melissa Morin (603-271-5019) at the Bureau of Developmental Services.