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TO: **Income Maintenance Supervisors**
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators

FROM: Amy Mendel-Clemens
Technical Assistance and Training Section
Bureau of Enrollment Management
Division of Health Care Access and
Accountability

BEM/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO					
No:	08-22				
DATE:	05/22/2008				
FS	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BC+	<input type="checkbox"/>
SC	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	FSET	<input type="checkbox"/>
CC	<input type="checkbox"/>	W-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	EA	<input type="checkbox"/>
CF	<input type="checkbox"/>	JAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	JC	<input type="checkbox"/>
RAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
				EP	
PRIORITY: HIGH					

SUBJECT: **Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance**

CROSS REFERENCE: MEH 18.6, Operations Memo 08-06

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

PURPOSE:

This memo provides local agencies with the 2008 amounts for the Community Spouse Income Allowance and the Spousal Impoverishment Family Member Income Allowance. Below are updated tables, effective dates and cross references for these programs.

BACKGROUND

The U.S Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) published its annual update of the Poverty Income Guidelines (a.k.a., Federal Poverty Level, or FPL) in the Federal Register in January. These guidelines are available at the following website:
<http://aspe.dhhs.gov/poverty/index.shtml>

Income limits and other amounts used in eligibility determinations for some categories of Medicaid (MA) are based upon the FPL. In addition, Federal and State law mandates that some of the income limit changes published in January related to Spousal Impoverishment have a delay in their effective dates. Those changes are specified in this Operations Memo.

POLICY CHANGE

The Spousal Impoverishment Community Spouse Income Allowance Minimum Allocation, Shelter Base Amount, and the Spousal Impoverishment Family Member Income Allowance will increase effective July 1, 2008 in accordance with State and Federal Law.

CARES

The new limits will be in CARES on Table TMEP on June 1, 2008. CARES eligibility re-determinations for July benefits will occur as part of a mass change on the weekend of June 7, 2008.

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT COMMUNITY SPOUSE INCOME ALLOWANCE

Effective: **07/01/2008**
Cross Reference: MEH 18.6

ITEM	Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2008	Amount Effective 07/01/08
Minimum Allocation	\$2,281.67	\$2,333.33
Shelter Base Amount	\$684.50	\$700.00

SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT FAMILY MEMBER INCOME ALLOWANCE

Effective: **07/01/2008**
Cross Reference: MEH 18.6

Group Size	Old Amount Effective until 07/01/2008	Amount Effective 07/01/08
Each eligible family member	\$570.42	\$583.33

CONTACTS

BEM CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – Food Stamp Employment and Training, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

DHFS/DHCAA/BEM/