



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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Commissioner

ANN CLEMENCY KOHLER
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 06-01

DATE: January 6, 2006

**TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
Institutional Services Section (ISS) Area Supervisors
Statewide Eligibility Vendor**

**SUBJECT: Adjustment to Spousal Impoverishment Resource
Eligibility Figures**

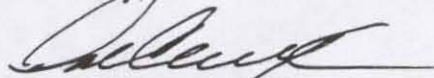
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have just advised this Agency of the new resource figures to be used in determining resource eligibility of an institutionalized adult when he or she has a spouse in the community. These new amounts are effective January 1, 2006.

The new minimum community spouse's share of resources is \$19,908.00, and the maximum is \$99,540.00, increasing from \$19,020.00 and \$95,100.00, respectively. These new figures are to be used, beginning with the month of January, 2006, in the determination of the community spouse's share and resource eligibility for all institutional cases when there is a community spouse. The new amounts apply to any case which has not yet been determined eligible, regardless of the date of application. The new figures apply even if the community spouse's share had been determined in a previous resource assessment.

Example: Mr. Smith entered a long term care facility on October 15, 2005. He and his wife had combined resources of \$200,00.00. The community spouse's share of the resources would have been established at \$95,100.00 at the time of the resource assessment. Because the Smiths' resources still exceed \$97,100.00 (the community spouse's share plus the \$2,000.00 resource limit), Mr. Smith has not yet attained Medicaid eligibility. Beginning January 1, 2006, the community spouse's share in this case will increase to \$99,540.00. Resource eligibility will exist once the Smiths' countable resources are equal to or less than \$101,540.00.

Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the field staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,



Ann Clemency Kohler
Director

ACK: Ff

c: Fred M. Jacobs, M.D., J.D., Commissioner
Kathleen M. Mason, Acting Deputy Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services

Jeanette Page-Hawkins, Director
Division of Family Development

Carol Grant, Director
Division of Developmental Disabilities