



Policy Memo	
KDHE-DHCF POLICY NO: PLMC2023-04	From: Erin Kelley, Senior Manager
Date: 2/17/2023	Medical KEESM/KFMAM Reference(s):
RE: Implementation of Federal Poverty Levels	Program(s): All Medical Programs

This memo provides instructions for implementation of new federal poverty level (FPL) standards. The new standards take effect April 1, 2023. Related manual references will be updated with the next scheduled revision.

Applicable to all Medical Programs:

- Medical Assistance Updates
- Special Processes
- Presumptive Eligibility
- Self-Service Portal Eligibility Check

I. FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL CHANGES

This change provides new income standards for Caretaker Medical, Medicaid Pregnant Women and Children, CHIP, the Medicare Savings Programs, and Working Healthy. It also impacts Presumptive Eligibility determinations for Pregnant Women, Children and Caretakers. The Kansas Medical Assistance Standards (Appendix Item F-8 on the KDHE Eligibility Policy website) has been updated with the new standards and updated tax deduction limits. The updated form is included with this memo.

A. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE UPDATES

The poverty level standards have been updated in the KEES system and are effective for any determinations for the benefit month of April 2023 or later. There will not be an exclusive automated KEES mass change to implement these changes. For ongoing cases, the new level will be considered the next time eligibility is redetermined. This is accomplished when EDBC is executed, accepted, and saved for the specific benefit month. The new levels will be loaded into KEES over the week of February 13, 2023. However,

because the new levels are not effective until April 2023, the values and calculations will not be available for the worker executed EDBC until February 17, 2023, when the month of April 2023 is available. The values will be available for system executed EDBC occurring on or after this date.

B. SPECIAL PROCESSES

Although no automatic updates were processed in the KEES system to implement the FPL change, other processes, such as the batch review process, will use the new FPL levels upon execution.

1. NEW APPLICATIONS

New requests for coverage that fail eligibility due to excess income in March 2023 will require a second determination for the month of April if the initial determination placed the applicant within ten (10%) percentage points* of the applicable poverty level. The results of both determinations shall be documented in the journal. Please note that an EDBC for April may be required even though the EDBC for March was high dated.

***NOTE:** Previously a second determination was made based on a 5% range of the poverty level; however, as the FPL increased by 7-8% in 2023, it is now appropriate to increase the range of difference for re-determining eligibility accordingly.

Applications that may be processed as a renewal shall be completed using the new values.

2. RENEWALS

Upon expiration of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) continuous coverage requirement, renewals expiring on or after April 2023 will use the new federal poverty level standards. The outcome will be based on the new limits. It is not necessary to reprocess 'Super Passive' or 'Passive' renewals unless there is a change reported that requires a new EDBC. All Pre-Populated reviews will be processed using the new standards, so special instructions are not necessary.

C. PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY

The new income standards are also implemented for Presumptive Eligibility (PE) determinations. Income limits in the PE tool are adjusted beginning April 1, 2023. The new standards will be used for any determination completed on or after this date. This information is being shared with the PE Qualified Entities, but no additional action is necessary to implement the changes.

D. SELF-SERVICE PORTAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK

The high-level eligibility check feature available to the public will also be updated with the new income standards. The updates to the SSP will also be available to any screening executed on or after April 1, 2023. Consumers using the self-check feature prior to April 1 will be presented a result using the 2022 FPL standards.

II. FORMS AND FACT SHEETS

Forms:

ES-3104.5 Determination of Need (Medical Assistance)
ES-3165 Working Healthy Premiums and ES-3165S Spanish Version
F-8 Kansas Medical Standards

Brochures:

KC-2110 Helpful Hints for Families and KC-2110S Spanish Version
KC-2700 Medicare Savings Programs and KC-2700S Spanish Version

Fact Sheets:

FS-1 Medical Coverage Basic Eligibility Requirements and FS-1S Spanish Version
FS-3 Overview of Programs for Elderly and Persons with Disabilities and FS-3S Spanish Version
FS-9 Medical Coverage for Children and FS-9S Spanish Version
FS-10 Medical Coverage for Parents or Caregivers of Children and FS-10S Spanish Version
FS-11 Medical Coverage for Pregnant Women and FS-11S Spanish Version

III. QUESTIONS

For questions or concerns related to this document, please contact the KDHE Medical Policy Staff at KDHE.MedicaidEligibilityPolicy@ks.gov.

Erin Kelley	Senior Manager
Amanda Corneliusen	Family Medical Program Manager
Jessica Pearson	Elderly & Disabled Program Manager
Sara Reese	Elderly & Disabled Program Manager

Questions regarding any KEES issues are directed to the KEES Help Desk at KEES.HelpDesk@ks.gov.