



Policy Clarification 2018-04-01

Title: Motor Vehicles

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Program(s) impacted: Elderly & Disabled Medical Programs

The purpose of this document is to provide clarification of what is considered a “motor vehicle” and how to determine the value of personal property that is not considered a motor vehicle.

For all Elderly and Disabled Medical programs, policy currently allows one motor vehicle which is used for transportation to be considered exempt if the primary purpose of the vehicle is to serve the needs of the assistance family group. For the purposes of this policy, a motor vehicle is defined as any registered or unregistered motorized vehicle used for transportation. Vehicles used for transportation include but are not limited to cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Additional vehicles may be exempt if any of the criteria outlined below are met:

- the vehicle is used over 50% of the time for employment or self-employment
- the vehicle is used as the family’s home
- the vehicle is needed for medical treatment of a specific medical problem
- the vehicle is specifically equipped for use by a handicapped person

A temporarily broken down vehicle normally used for transportation meets the definition of a motor vehicle. If a consumer who owns a motor vehicle that is temporarily inoperable claims he or she will resume use of the motor vehicle for transportation within 12 calendar months following the month eligibility is determined, the value of the vehicle is exempt. It is not necessary to contact the consumer to determine if the motor vehicle became operable within the 12-month period. It shall be assumed the motor vehicle did become operable.

As indicated in Medical KEESM 5521, the resource value of non-exempt motor vehicles seven (7) years old or less is determined by considering the average trade-in value from Kelley Blue Book (or other approved source) less any encumbrances. For motor vehicles more than seven (7) years old, a standard value of \$100 shall be assigned.

Trailers and vehicles used only for recreational purposes and not as the primary method of transportation do not meet the definition of motor vehicle. The equity value of vehicles that do not meet the definition of motor vehicle are countable as a resource. Kelley Blue Book (KBB), National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA), another reputable trade publication or reputable dealer may be used to determine the value of vehicles that meet the criteria outlined above. Note: The personal effects exclusion outlined in KEESM 5430(21) does not apply to such vehicles.