

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES  
Family Services  
Docking State Office Building  
Room 581 - West  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

**3/16/15**

To: Regional Directors  
Economic and Employment Services Program Administrators  
Economic and Employment Services Staff  
KDHE-HCF Staff, including the KanCare Clearinghouse  
Prevention and Protection Services Administrators  
Other Staff

Re: Summary of Changes for Kansas Economic and Employment Services  
Manual (KEESM) Revision No. 71 effective April 1, 2015

## **OVERVIEW OF CHANGES**

A brief overview of the major changes is described below. Other clarifications and technical corrections are also included and described in the next section. Additional technical corrections not mentioned here are being incorporated in KEESM as needed.

**Medical Assistance** – The new federal poverty levels are being adopted, including an increase in the minimum community spouse income allowance, the dependent family member allowance, and the excess shelter deduction. These changes are all effective April 1, 2015.

## **DESCRIPTION, PURPOSE, AND DETAILS OF POLICY CHANGE**

### **I. All Programs**

#### **A. Changes**

None

#### **B. Clarifications**

- 1. Agent Orange Settlement Payments** – A public law citation is being added to clarify that the only Agent Orange related payments that are exempt as income and a resource are those made from the product liability settlement fund.

KEESM section [6410\(2\)](#) will be updated with this revision.

## II. Medical Assistance

### A. Changes

1. **Poverty Level Changes** – New federal poverty level guidelines have been published by the Department of Health and Human Services. The guidelines affect the eligibility standards for the following medical groups:
  - a. Income standards for the Medicaid poverty level and CHIP programs, and premium standards for the CHIP program;
  - b. Income standards for the QMB, LMB, Expanded LMB, and QWD programs;
  - c. Income standards for the TransMed program;
  - d. Income and premium standards for the Working Healthy (WH) program;
  - e. For spousal impoverishment, the minimum community spouse income allowance increases from \$1,967 to \$1,992. The dependent family member allowance increases from \$656 to \$664. The excess shelter deduction increases from \$219 to \$229.

The following KEESM Sections, Forms and Appendix items are being modified with this change:

Sections [8144.2](#) and [8244.2](#)

[ES-3104.5](#), Determination of Need

[ES-3163](#), Income Allowance Determination

[ES-3165](#), Working Healthy Premium Information

Appendix Item [F-8](#), Kansas Medical Assistance Standards.

Separate implementation instructions will be issued to staff for these changes.

2. **Forms** – A new form, [ES-3821](#) (Notice of Medical Eligibility Review) has been created. This is the cover letter that shall be attached to the KC1500 (Medical Assistance Application for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities) sent at review.

**B. Clarifications**

None

**FORMS** (Explanation provided if not mentioned previously in this summary.)

**Medical Assistance**

[ES-3104.5](#), **Determination of Need**

[ES-3163](#), **Income Allowance Determination**

[ES-3165](#), **Working Healthy Premium Information**

[ES-3821](#), **Notice of Medical Eligibility Review**

**APPENDIX** (Explanation provided if not mentioned previously in this summary.)

**Medical Assistance**

[F-8](#), **Kansas Medical Assistance Standards**

**MISCELLANEOUS FORMS** (Explanation provided if not mentioned previously in this summary.)

None

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Policies for this revision are effective April 1, 2015.

**EFFECT ON LOCAL STAFF** (No significant effect if not explained below.)

**MATERIALS OBSOLETE BY THIS REVISION**

None

**COORDINATION EFFORTS**

This change was coordinated with staff in Economic and Employment Services, Executive Leadership, and the EES Program Administrators.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Kimmons, Interim EES Director  
Economic and Employment Services  
JR:am

Page Last Updated: 3/30/15 11:25 AM

