



## OPERATIONAL MEMO

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<b>Title:</b> 2024 Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments	<b>Topic:</b> Health First Colorado
<b>Audience:</b> Eligibility Sites, Eligibility Technicians and Supervisors, County Departments of Human/Social Services	<b>Sub-Topic:</b> Income & Resource Eligibility
<b>Supersedes Number:</b> HCPF OM-22-057	<b>Division:</b> Eligibility Division
<b>Effective Date:</b> Jan. 1, 2024	<b>Office:</b> Medicaid Operations Office
<b>Expiration Date:</b> Dec. 31, 2024	<b>Program Area:</b> Medical Assistance Financial Eligibility
<b>Key Words:</b> 2024 COLA, 2024 Cost of Living Adjustment, SSI, Home Maintenance Allowance, HMA, Patient Payment, PNA, Personal Needs Allowance, Spousal Protection, Community Spouse, CSRA, Home Equity Maximum	
<b>Legal Authority:</b> 2024 SSI and Spousal Impoverishment Standards	
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<b>Issue Date:</b> Dec. 28, 2023	
<b>Approved By:</b> Marivel Klueckman	

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### **Purpose and Audience:**

This letter is meant to advise counties and eligibility sites of the 2024 Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA). Please share this memo with all affected Adult and Long-Term Care Medicaid eligibility staff, supervisors, and outside agencies, as appropriate.

### **Information:**

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase due to a COLA of 3.2% in 2024. The purpose of the COLA is to ensure that the purchasing power of Social Security and SSI benefits is not eroded by inflation. It is based on the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners

and Clerical Workers from the third quarter of the last year to the third quarter of the current year.

Beginning January 1, 2024, in addition to SSI, the COLA will also apply to the programs listed in the following section of this letter.

#### Social Security Income Limits

	Effective January 1, 2024
Individuals in their own home	\$943
The individual in the home of another	\$628
Couple in own home	\$1415
Couple in the home of another	\$943
In-kind Support and Maintenance Maximum (ISM)	\$334
300% Limit	\$2829
Old Age Pension	\$981

Nursing Facility

Income Trust Gross Limits and Average Private Pay Rate

	January 2023	January 2024
<b>Region I</b>		

Counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver and Jefferson	\$10,551	\$10888.63
<b>Region II</b> Counties: Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Grand, Jackson, Kit Carson, Larimer, Logan, Morgan, Park, Phillips, Sedgwick, Summit, Washington, Weld and Yuma	\$8,968	\$9254.97

<p><b>Region III</b></p> <p>Counties: Alamosa, Baca, Bent, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Crowley, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Kiowa, Lake, Las Animas, Lincoln, Mineral, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Saguache, and Teller</p>	<p>\$8,381</p>	<p>\$8649.19</p>
<p><b>Region IV</b></p> <p>Counties: Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, Eagle, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mesa, Moffat, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, San Juan and San Miguel</p>	<p>\$8,844</p>	<p>\$9,124.00</p>
<p><b>Average Private Pay Rate</b></p>	<p>\$9,186</p>	<p>\$9479.95</p>

Nursing and Intermediate Care Facility Personal Needs Allowance (PNA)

2023 PNA Base Amount	Adjustment Percent	2024 PNA
\$95.97	10%	\$105.56

Home Maintenance Allowance (HMA)

	January 1, 2024
Individual Needs Standard (INS)	\$2,850
105% FPL for HH of 1 (2023)	\$1,276
HMA Maximum (INS minus 105% FPL, rounded down)	\$1,574

Medicare

	January 2023	January 2024
<b>Medicare Part A - Hospital Insurance</b> Seniors and certain individuals under 65 with fewer than 30 work quarters of Medicare covered employment	\$506	\$505

<p><b>Medicare Part B</b> Physician services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health services, durable medical equipment, and other items</p>	\$164.90	\$174.70
<p><b>Medicare Skilled Nursing Facility Coinsurance</b> Days 21 thru 100 each benefit period</p>	\$200.00	\$204.00

Spousal Protection

	January 1, 2023	January 1, 2024
<p>Community Spouse Resource Allowance (CSRA)</p>	\$148,620.00	\$154,140.00
<p>Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (Maximum)</p>	\$3,715.50	\$3,853.50

	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023
Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMMNA)	\$2,288.75	\$2,465.00
Shelter Allowance (\$30 of MMMNA)	\$686.63	\$739.50

Home Equity Maximum

January 1, 2023	January 1, 2024
\$1,033,000	\$1,071,000

**Action To Be Taken:**

CBMS has been updated to reflect the 2024 SSI COLA adjustments as of January 1, 2024. Eligibility workers should be utilizing these updated figures for eligibility determinations starting for the month of January 2024.

**Attachments:**

None

**HCPF Contact:**

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