



TOBY DOUGLAS
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

March 25, 2014

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 14-13
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS

SUBJECT: LIMITS AND DISREGARDS FOR THE BLIND FEDERAL POVERTY
LEVEL PROGRAM FOR 2014 - BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2014

Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 14005.40 (1) requires that the Aged and Disabled Federal Poverty Level (A&D FPL) and Blind Federal Poverty Level (FPL-B) program's effective income standard be the greater of the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) rates, or 100 percent FPL plus the standard deduction for an individual (\$230) or a couple (\$310).

Beginning April 1, 2014, income limits for the FPL-B are as follows:

The income limit for a FPL-B individual will be \$1,203. This income limit is equal to \$973 (100 percent of the FPL) and the \$230 standard disregard for an individual, which is a higher payment rate than the May 1, 2009 SSI/SSP blind individual payment rate of \$935. The May 1, 2009 SSI/SSP payment rate, used by Medi-Cal programs, remains in effect until the current payment rate is increased to a level that exceeds the May 1, 2009 payment rate.

The May 1, 2009 SSI/SSP rate for blind couples is higher than 100 percent FPL for two, plus the \$310 disregard for couples. Therefore, blind couples will use the higher SSI/SSP payment standard. The FPL-B couple income standard has two different limits; one limit for a couple where both individuals are blind, and a separate limit for a couple where one individual is blind and the other individual is either aged or disabled.

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These two income standards are reflected in the May 1, 2009 SSI/SSP payment rate schedule as indicated below:

- Both individuals of a couple are blind; \$1,751
- One individual of a couple is blind, the other individual is aged or disabled; \$1,666

If you have other questions regarding our response, please call Leslie Benson at (916) 327-0407 or by email at leslie.benson@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By:

Tara Naisbitt, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division