

Karen House, SS Medical Program Manager  
**Authorized Signature**

**Number:** SS-PT-08-009  
**Issue Date:** 01/28/2008

**Topic:** Other

**Transmitting (check the box that best applies):**

- New Policy   
  Policy Change   
  Policy Clarification   
  Executive Letter  
 Administrative Rule   
  Manual Update   
 Other: Income Standard Change

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- All DHS employees                     
  County Mental Health Directors  
 Area Agencies on Aging                     
  Health Services  
 Children, Adults and Families                     
  Seniors and People with Disabilities  
 County DD Program Managers                     
  Other (please specify):

Policy/Rule Title:	Federal Poverty Level - OHP, ERDC, Post-TANF and FS Income Standards		
Policy/Rule Number(s):	461-155-0180, 461-155-0235	Release No:	
Effective Date:	January 24, 2008	Expiration:	
References:			
Web Address:			

**Discussion/Interpretation:** The annual adjustment to the federal poverty guidelines was released January 24, 2008 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Implementation/Transition Instructions:**

OHP Income Standards

With these new federal poverty level (FPL) amounts, the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) medical assistance program income standards are being updated effective January 24, 2008.

Attached is the Combined Standards (DHS 5530) form. The OHP standards are effective January 24, 2008. Start using the new OHP income standards immediately to

determine eligibility. The Client Maintenance (CM) system will have the new standards in place on January 29, 2008 (the day after end of the month processing). If you have an individual who is applying and eligible for OHP except that the countable income exceeds the old OHP income standard but is less than the new standard, wait until after end of month processing to code medical eligibility.

## ERDC

The ERDC standards change is effective January 1. The new standards are included in the attached Combined Standards (DHS 5530) form. The CM system and copay calculation will be updated on January 29th. Please use the income standard on any ERDC applications you are currently processing. Remember that the copay amounts are not changing, only the income cap.

## Food Stamps

The food stamp 185% categorical eligibility standard is changed effective January 24, 2008. The new standards are included in the attached Combined Standards (DHS 5530) chart. Begin to use this new categorical eligibility standard immediately. The 185% will be updated on FSMIS February 1, 2008. If a filing group who is applying and eligible for FS has income above the old 185% level but below the new one, wait until we notify you that FSMIS has been updated to code their case. The other FS income standards will not change until the annual update on October 1, 2008.

## Post-TANF

The Post-TANF standards change is effective January 1, 2008. The new standards are included in the attached Combined Standards (DHS 5530) form.

## Qualified Medicare Beneficiary

QMB income standards will not be adjusted until March 1, 2008. For more information about dealing with QMB clients between now and March 1, 2008, refer to SPD IM 07-088.

<http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/im/2007/im07088.pdf>

## Manual Updates

The Family Services Manual (FSM) and Administrative Rules Manual (ARM) releases for April 2008 will contain the new standards. The on-line ARM and the FSM will be updated this week.

## Contacts

If you have any questions regarding the new OHP income standards, please contact Joyce Clarkson at 503-945-6106, Michelle Mack at 503-947-5129 or Carol Berg at 503-945-6072.

If you have any questions regarding the new ERDC income standards, please contact Shiela Carter at 503-945-6110 or Rhonda Prodzinski at 503-945-6087.

If you have any questions regarding the new Post-TANF income standards, please contact Phil Laymon, 945-6128

If you have any questions regarding the new FS categorical eligibility income limit, please contact Anne Hilgers at 503-945-6105, Sandy Ambrose at 503-945-6092, Dawn Myers at 503-945-7018, Rosanne Richard at 503- 945-5826, Eliza Devlin at 503- 947-5105 or Sarah Lambert at 503-945-6220.

If you have any questions regarding the new QMB income standards, please contact Dale Marande at 503-945-6476

**Training/Communication Plan:**

**Local/Branch Action Required:** See Implementation/Transition Instructions.

**Central Office Action Required:**

**Field/Stakeholder review:**       Yes       No

**If yes, reviewed by:**

**Filing Instructions:**

*If you have any questions about this policy, contact:*

<b>Contact(s):</b>	see above		
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>E-mail:</b>			