



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



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

Date: December 23, 2021

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 21-34  
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS  
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES  
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: 2022 Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act Spousal Impoverishment Caps

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of an increase to the Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (MMMNA) and the Community Spouse Resource Allowance (CSRA) under the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act.

Effective January 1, 2022, the CSRA is \$137,400 and the MMMNA is \$3,435 per month.

DHCS will inform counties when these amounts are updated on the following forms via Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter:

- Medi-Cal General Property Limitations (MC 007)
- Notice Regarding Standards for Medi-Cal Eligibility (DHCS 7077), and
- DHCS 7102 Medi-Cal Eligibility and Recovery

### **Additional Information –Changes to the Asset Limits and SI Evaluations**

On July 1, 2022, the asset limits for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal will be changing. In this context, the term “assets” refers to non-exempt property. The asset limit for one person will increase from \$2,000 to \$130,000. Under the Spousal Impoverishment (SI) provisions, married couples and registered domestic partners (RDPs) are in separate Medi-Cal Family Budget Units (MFBUs). Because of this, the property limits for a couple under the SI provisions are the current CSRA amount (for the community spouse), plus the property limit for one person (for the institutionalized spouse). The CSRA is utilized for Spousal Impoverishment (for institutionalized spouses/RDPs) and Expanded Spousal Impoverishment (Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) spouses/RDPs) provisions. Since the property limit for one person will be going up, the total limit for a couple under the SI provisions will increase significantly. The July 1,

2022 asset limit increase will not change the 2022 CSRA amount. The only change will be the increase to the asset limit for the institutionalized/HCBS spouse.

Example:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>January 1 – June 30, 2022</b>	<b>Effective 07/01/2022</b>
Property Limits Under SI	CSRA + \$2,000	CSRA + \$2,000	CSRA + \$130,000
Actual amounts	\$130,340 + \$2,000	\$137,400 + \$2,000	\$137,400 + \$130,000
TOTAL	\$132,340	\$139,400	\$267,400

SAWS will be programmed to reflect the increased asset limits prior to July 1, 2022 implementation. For SI cases processed after July 1, 2022, the CSRA for 2022 will be used, along with the property limit of \$130,000 for one person.

For additional information related to the asset limit changes, please see ACWDL [21-31](#).

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Daniela Gutierrez by email at [daniela.gutierrez@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:daniela.gutierrez@dhcs.ca.gov) or by phone at (916) 345-8501.

**Original Signed By**

Linda Nguyen, Chief  
Policy Development Branch  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division