



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Rick Scott
Governor

Mike Carroll
Secretary

DATE: June 9, 2017 **TRANSMITTAL NO.:** P-17-06-0012

TO: Economic Self-Sufficiency Operations Managers
Economic Self-Sufficiency Program Offices

FROM: Susan Thomas, Chief, Program Policy
Suzanne Poirier, Chief, Technology & Project Management
(Signatures on File)

SUBJECT: Change in Average Private Pay Nursing Home Rate

EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2017

This memorandum is to inform staff of a change in the average private pay nursing home rate.

Transfer of asset provisions apply to individuals applying for or receiving Medicaid benefits under the Institutional Care Program (including institutional Hospice and MEDS-AD), Home & Community Based Waiver Programs, and the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program. The average private pay nursing home rate is used when calculating transfer of asset penalty periods.

New Penalty Periods

The transfer divisor changed to \$8,944 effective June 1, 2017. The new transfer divisor figure will apply to all new penalty periods with a begin date starting on or after June 1, 2017, regardless of when the transfer occurred. Appendix A-35 of the manual has been updated with the new figure.

Existing Penalty Periods

Previously imposed penalty periods must not be recalculated based on the new divisor even if there is a break in Medicaid coverage and the individual reapplies on or after June 1, 2017. Staff should continue to use the divisor that was used at the time the penalty period was calculated.

FLORIDA System Instructions

The FLORIDA System has been updated with the new amount. Once the total of all transferred assets is correctly entered on the AAAT screen, FLORIDA will calculate the correct penalty period using the new amount as the divisor.

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Mission: Work in Partnership with Local Communities to Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency

Change in Average Private Pay Nursing Home Rate
Page 2

If there are policy questions, region program offices may contact Nathan Lewis at Nathan.Lewis@myflfamilies.com. If there are any technology or systems questions, please contact Ron Hardcastle at Ron.Hardcastle@myflfamilies.com.

cc: Assistant Secretary for Economic Self-Sufficiency (Jeri Culley)
Director (Liesta Sykes)
Regional ESS Directors
Customer Call Center (Guerschom Alcin, Janio Garcia, Brenda Anderson, Andrew Houghton, Goodluck Owi)
Data Analytics, Technology, and Project Management (William Martinez, Margie France, Eileen Schilling)
EBT (Michael Pogue)
ESS Program Administration (Jamie Franz)
FLORIDA Help Desk (Glenda Washington)
Information Technology (Kit Goodner, Barbara Roglieri, Kevan Meltzer)
Office of Appeal Hearings (Nathan Koch)
Office of Communications (Jessica K. Sims)
Office of the General Counsel (Lynn S. Hewitt)
Office of Continuous Improvement (Debbie McLemore)
Office of Program Policy (Melissa K. Burns, Nathan Lewis, Jacinta Murphy)
Peer and Integrity Review Manager (Terry Field)
Public Benefits Integrity (Andrew McClenahan, Sheri Hall, Karen Jilson)
Florida Legal Services (Cindy Huddleston)
AHCA (Mary McCullough, Lisa Gill, Peggy Hall, Gail Hansen, Virginia Hardcastle, Shevaun Harris, Beth Kidder, Abby Riddle)
Florida Bar Elder Law Section (Emma Hemness, Twyla Sketchley)
Florida Healthy Kids (Austin Noll)