



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott
Governor

Mike Carroll
Interim Secretary

DATE: November 13, 2014 **TRANSMITTAL NO.:** P-14-11-0022

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

FROM: Dianna Laffey, Chief, Program Policy (**Signature on File**)

SUBJECT: Interstate Residency Agreements for the Institutional Care Program

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

This memo informs staff of a change to the Interstate Residency Agreement policy for the Institutional Care Program (ICP) and supersedes the information previously addressed in Transmittal NO.: P14-05-0009.

Federal guidance confirms agreements between states are not required to exclude homestead property when the individual's intent is to return to the home. All Interstate Agreements previously applied in this exclusion were terminated by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) earlier this year.

New Policy

Staff must allow a homestead exclusion to real property without regard to the state in which the property is located, if the individual resided in the home at the time the individual entered the nursing home and one of the following two conditions are met:

- The individual's spouse or dependent relative resides in the home or
- The individual expresses the intent to return to the home following discharge (the home continues to be the individual's principal place of residence).

This policy change does not affect other reasons to exclude real property in other states described in manual passages: income producing property (1640.0538), good faith effort to sell (1640.0537), or the individual's spouse or dependent relative resides in the home (1640.0543.02).

If there are policy questions, Region offices may contact Dorthene Baker at (850) 717-4293.

cc: Assistant Secretary for Economic Self-Sufficiency (Jennifer Lange)
Director (Nathan Lewis)
Customer Call Center (Pat Badland, Liesta Sykes, Irene Hill, Hyung Kim,
Georgina Santana)
EBT and Technology (Debbie McLemore, Florence Hollinghead, Michael Pogue)
FLORIDA Help Desk (Anthony Gaston)
Information Technology (Kit Goodner, Barbara Roglieri)
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Eileen Schilling)
Office of Appeal Hearings (Betty Zachem)
Office of Communications (Alexis Lambert)
Office of the General Counsel (Herschel Minnis)
Office of Quality Management (Tonyaleah Veltkamp, Cindy Mickler, Annette
Wiechers, Susan Thomas)
Program Policy (Dorthene Baker, Jena Grignon, Connie Mathers)
Public Benefits Integrity (Andrew McClenahan, Sheri Hall, Fred Young)
AHCA (Kathy Austin, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Lisa Gill, Peggy Hall, Shevaun
Harris, Beth Kidder, David Rogers)
Florida Bar Elder Law Section (Emma Hemness, Twyla Sketchley)
Florida Legal Services (Cindy Huddleston)