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### **3000.00.00 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS**

Each program has separate standards established by law or regulation which must be used to determine eligibility for assistance. This chapter includes information on the following:

Resource Limits (Section 3005);  
Facility Private Pay Rate (Section 3006);  
Income/Need Standards (Section 3010);  
Dependent Care Standards (Section 3015);  
Utility Standards (Section 3020);  
Food Stamp Related Standards (Section 3025);  
Work Expense Disregard (Section 3030);  
MA Earned Income Disregard (Section 3035);  
General Income Disregard (Section 3040);  
General Earned Income Disregard (Section 3045);  
Medicare Part D Benchmark (Section 3041);  
Maximum Benefits (Section 3050); and  
Footnotes for Chapter 3000 (Section 3099).

### **3005.00.00 RESOURCE LIMITS**

The resource limit is the maximum value of nonexempt resources which an assistance group (AG) may retain in order to be eligible for assistance. The following sections list the limits for each program.

#### **3005.05.00 RESOURCE LIMITS (F)**

The resource limit is \$2000 for all AGs that do not include an elderly or disabled member.

Effective 10/01/02 the resource limit is \$3000 for any AG which contains a member age 60 or older or a member who is blind or disabled according to the policy in Section 3210.10.25.05. (f1)

#### **3005.10.00 RESOURCE LIMITS (C, MED 2)**

The resource limit is \$1000 for applicants. (f2)

For TANF recipients, the resource limit is \$1,500. (f2a)

#### **3005.15.00 RESOURCE LIMITS (MED 1)**

The resource limit is dependent upon the category of assistance and the composition and living arrangement of the AG. (f3)

The resource limits for Aged, Blind, and Disabled categories (MA A, MA B, and MA D) are as follows:

\$1500 for an applicant/recipient, who is unmarried, separated from his spouse for reasons other than medical, or whose spouse qualifies as a "community spouse".

\$2250 for an applicant/recipient and his spouse (whether or not the spouse is an applicant/recipient) if the couple is living together, or separated only for medical reasons and the spousal impoverishment provisions do not apply.

For the applicant/recipient who is under age 18 and living with his parents, the resource limit for his parents is as follows, unless the child is approved for Home and Community Based Services. Under these waivers, parental resources are not considered.

- \$1500 for a biological or adoptive parent who is unmarried or separated from his spouse; or
- \$2250 for biological or adoptive parents living together, or who are separated only for medical reasons.

The resource limits for M.E.D. Works (MADW, MADI) are:

\$2,000 for an applicant/recipient, who is unmarried, separated from his spouse for reasons other than medical, or whose spouse qualifies as a community spouse.

\$3,000 for an applicant/recipient and his spouse (whether or not the spouse is an applicant/recipient if the couple is living together, or separated only for medical reasons and the spousal impoverishment provisions do not apply.

Parental resources are exempt.

When an institutionalized individual has a community spouse, the community spouse resource limit is the greatest of the following amounts effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009: (f4)

- The state standard of \$21,912. (\$ 20,880 effective 1/1/08 through 12/31/08);

- The spousal share, up to a maximum of \$109,560. (\$104,400 effective 1/1/08 through 12/31/08;
- Any amount of resources ordered by a court against the institutionalized spouse for the support of the community spouse; or
- The amount established by an Administrative Law Judge as the result of an appeal.

**3005.20.00            RESOURCE LIMITS (MED 3)**

There are no resource limits for any of the MED 3 categories of assistance. Any amount of resources may be retained by an AG.

**3005.25.00            RESOURCE LIMITS (MED 4)**

The resource limits for the QMB, SLMB, QDW, and QI categories are: (f5)

\$4000 for an applicant/recipient who is unmarried or not living with his spouse;

\$6000 for an applicant/recipient and his spouse if the couple is living together.

**3006.00.00            FACILITY RATE USED TO CALCULATE PENALTY PERIOD (MED)**

The average monthly private pay rate for nursing facilities in the statewide geographic region to be used in computing transfer penalties as explained in Section 2640.10.35 is \$4611. This amount is in effect for applications filed on and after July 1, 2009. (The rate for applications filed on or after 7-1-08 through 6-30-09, \$4456; on or after 7-1-07 through 6-30-08, \$4249; for applications filed on or after 7-1-06 through 6-30-07, \$3960; for applications filed on or after 7-1-05 through 6-30-06, \$3898, for applications filed on or after 7-1-04 through 6-30-05, \$3817; and for applications filed on 7-1-03 through 6-30-04, \$3,667).

For applications filed 11-1-98 through 6-30-02, the amount for the appropriate geographic region below is to be used.

Region I	\$ 3,405.21
Region II	\$ 3,422.07
Region III	\$ 3,267.05

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>REGION</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>REGION</u>
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ADAMS	I	LAWRENCE	III
ALLEN	I	MADISON	II
BARTHOLOMEW	III	MARION	II
BENTON	II	MARSHALL	I
BLACKFORD	II	MARTIN	III
BOONE	II	MIAMI	I
BROWN	III	MONROE	III
CARROLL	II	MONTGOMERY	II
CASS	I	MORGAN	II
CLARK	III	NEWTON	I
CLAY	III	NOBLE	I
CLINTON	II	OHIO	III
CRAWFORD	III	ORANGE	III
DAVISS	III	OWEN	III
DEARBORN	III	PARKE	III
DECATUR	III	PERRY	III
DEKALB	I	PIKE	III
DELAWARE	II	PORTER	I
DUBOIS	III	POSEY	III
ELKHART	I	PULASKI	I
FAYETTE	II	PUTNAM	III
FLOYD	III	RANDOLPH	II
FOUNTAIN	II	RIPLEY	III
FRANKLIN	II	RUSH	II
FULTON	I	ST. JOSEPH	I
GIBSON	III	SCOTT	III
GRANT	II	SHELBY	II
GREENE	III	SPENCER	III
HAMILTON	II	STARKE	I
HANCOCK	II	STEUBEN	I
HARRISON	III	SULLIVAN	III
HENDRICKS	II	SWITZERLAND	III
HENRY	II	TIPPECANOE	II
HOWARD	II	TIPTON	II
HUNTINGTON	I	UNION	II
JACKSON	III	VANDERBURGH	III
JASPER	III	VERMILLION	III
JAY	II	VIGO	III
JEFFERSON	III	WABASH	I
JENNINGS	III	WARREN	II
JOHNSON	II	WARRICK	III
KNOX	III	WASHINGTON	III
KOSCIUSKO	I	WAYNE	II
LAGRANGE	I	WELLS	I
LAKE	I	WHITE	I
LAPORTE	I	WHITLEY	I

**3010.00.00 INCOME/NEED STANDARDS**

Income and Need Standards are the maximum income or expense consideration that is given to an AG in order to determine financial eligibility. For some programs, both a gross income and net income comparison are necessary. The

specific income or need standards of each program are discussed in the following sections.

**3010.05.00 INCOME STANDARDS (F)**

This chart lists the Food Stamp Program's maximum monthly gross and net income standards. For financial eligibility to exist, income may not exceed these standards. The maximum gross income amounts are based on 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the maximum net income amounts are based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Following are the amounts effective 10/01/09.

AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME	AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1174	\$ 903	6	\$3200	\$2461
2	1579	1215	7	3605	2773
3	1984	1526	8	4010	3085
4	2389	1838	9	4416	3397
5	2794	2150	10	4822	3709
Each Additional Member (gross) + \$406			Each Additional Member (net) + \$312		

**3010.05.05 Income Standards - Elderly/Disabled Separate AG (F)**

This chart lists the Food Stamp Program's maximum monthly gross and net income standards for AGs containing an elderly or disabled member. The maximum gross income amounts are based on 165% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the maximum net income amounts are based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Following are the amounts effective 10/01/09.

AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME	AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1490	\$ 903	5	\$3547	\$2150
2	2004	1215	6	4061	2461
3	2518	1526	7	4575	2773
4	3032	1838	8	5089	3085
Each Additional Member (gross) + \$515			Each Additional Member (net) + \$312		

**3010.10.00 NEEDS STANDARDS (C)**

The need standard is the maximum expense consideration given to a Cash Assistance group. It is a flat maintenance allowance which varies by AG participating member size and composition. (f7) One chart lists the need standard for an AG with a recipient parent and/or caretaker, and the second chart lists the standard for an AG with children only.

<b>NEED STANDARD</b>			
<b>AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER</b>			
<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NEED STANDARD</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NEED STANDARD</b>
1	\$155	6	\$515
2	255	7	580
3	320	8	645
4	385	9	710
5	450	10	775
Each Additional Member + \$65			

<b>NEED STANDARD</b>			
<b>AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY</b>			
<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NEED STANDARD</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NEED STANDARD</b>
1	\$155	6	\$480
2	220	7	545
3	285	8	610
4	350	9	675
5	415	10	740
Each Additional Member + \$65		Each Additional Member + \$65	

**3010.15.00 185% INCOME STANDARDS (C)**

This chart lists the maximum monthly gross income and net income standards for non-treatment Cash Assistance groups. (f8) The gross income standard is used when the 185% test is completed for initial eligibility for all cash assistance groups. For financial eligibility to exist, income may not exceed these standards. The gross income standard is 185% of the need standard, and the net income standard is 90% of the need standard. There are separate charts for AGs which include a recipient parent/caretaker and AGs which only include children.

This chart lists the maximum monthly gross income and net income standards for Cash Assistance groups.

**INCOME STANDARD**

**AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER**

<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>NET INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>NET INCOME STANDARD</u>
1	\$ 286.75	\$139.50	6	\$ 952.75	\$463.50
2	471.75	229.50	7	1073.00	522.00
3	592.00	288.00	8	1193.25	580.50
4	712.25	346.50	9	1313.50	639.00
5	832.50	405.00	10	1433.75	697.50
Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50			Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50		

**INCOME STANDARD**

**AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY**

<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>NET INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME STANDARD</u>	<u>NET INCOME STANDARD</u>
1	\$ 286.75	\$ 139.50	6	\$ 888.00	\$ 432.00
2	407.00	198.00	7	1008.25	490.50
3	527.25	256.50	8	1128.50	549.00
4	647.50	315.00	9	1248.75	607.50
5	767.75	373.50	10	1369.00	666.00
Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50			Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50		

3010.15.05 100% Income Standards (C)

This chart lists the maximum monthly countable net income standards and the adjusted needs standard for cash assistance for a TANF AG. The countable net income standard is 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). (f8a) The adjusted needs standard is 90% of the need standard. There are separate charts for AG's which include a recipient parent/caretaker and AG's which only include children.

An AG which will lose eligibility when its countable net income equals or exceeds 100% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of the same size. (f8b)

**INCOME STANDARD**

**AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER**

<u>AG</u>	<u>COUNTABLE NET INCOME</u>	<u>ADJUSTED NEEDS</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>COUNTABLE NET INCOME</u>	<u>ADJUSTED NEEDS</u>
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SIZE	STANDARD	STANDARD	SIZE	STANDARD	STANDARD
1	\$ 867	\$139.50	6	\$2367	\$463.50
2	\$1167	\$229.50	7	\$2667	\$522.00
3	\$1467	\$288.00	8	\$2967	\$580.50
4	\$1767	\$346.50	9	\$3267	\$639.00
5	\$2067	\$405.00	10	\$3567	\$697.50

For each additional member, see ICES Table TMIS, effective 3/1/08.

INCOME STANDARD AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY					
AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD	AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD
1	\$ 867	\$139.50	6	\$2367	\$432.00
2	\$1167	\$198.00	7	\$2667	\$490.50
3	\$1467	\$256.50	8	\$2967	\$549.00
4	\$1767	\$315.00	9	\$3267	\$607.50
5	\$2067	\$373.50	10	\$3567	\$666.00

For each additional member, see ICES Table TMIS, effective 3/1/08.

**3010.20.00 INCOME STANDARDS (MED 1)**

The income standards used in determining eligibility for MA A, MA B, and MA D AGs are based on AG size, composition, and living arrangement. The following sections list the income standards to be utilized in a given case.

**3010.20.05 Eligibility Income Standards (MED 1)**

The monthly income standards listed in this section are used in the eligibility determination. (f9) These standards are effective January 1, 2009.

\$674- unmarried applicant/recipient of any age; or applicant/recipient not living with a spouse;

\$1011- married couple, either or both of whom are applicants/recipients;

\$337- a dependent child; applicable for a child not in an MA assistance group or one who is in an MA assistance group other than MA B or MA D;

\$338- an essential person;

- \$674- one parent of the child applicant/recipient;
- \$1011- two parents of the child applicant/recipient;  
and
- \$337- stepparent.

3010.20.10 Post-Eligibility Standards (MED 1)

The policies stated in this section apply only to the MA A, MA B, and MA D categories of assistance.

The purpose of post-eligibility is to determine the institutionalized applicant's/recipient's liability to the facility. This determination also establishes the amount of the institutionalized applicant's/recipient's income which is allocated to meet the needs of his community spouse and certain other family members. The following standards are used in the post-eligibility calculation:

Personal needs allowance:

- \$52 (f10)  
  
Effective 7-1-02 (\$50 effective 7-1-99) this is the minimum amount allowed for all applicants/recipients except as stated below for certain veterans.
- \$90 (f11)  
  
This is the maximum amount of the reduced VA benefit payable to a single veteran or veteran's widow in a nursing facility. The amount of the reduced VA benefit is the personal needs allowance for the individual.
- In specific situations, an additional individual amount for increased personal needs is to be deducted. Refer to Section 3455.15.10.

Spousal allocation (f12) based on:

- Spousal Income Standard -\$1823 effective 7-1-09; (\$1751 effective 7-1-08)
- Shelter Standard - \$547 effective 7-1-09 (\$526 effective 7-1-08)
- Maximum Maintenance Standard - \$2739 effective 1-1-09; (\$2610 effective 1/1/08)

Family allocation (f13) based on:

- 1/3 of the difference between a family member's income and \$1823 effective 7-1-09; (\$1751 effective 7/1/08)

3010.20.15 Special Income Level Used For Waiver Services (MED 1)

The Special Income Level (SIL) used in determining eligibility under certain HCBS waivers is 300% of the SSI Maximum Benefit Rate. Effective 1/1/09, the SIL is \$2022.

3010.20.20 Income Standard/Premiums for M.E.D. Works

The income standard for MADW and MADI is 350% of the Federal Poverty Level. Effective March 1, 2009 the standard is \$3,159. Premiums are listed in the following table.

PREMIUMS						
Family Size	Monthly Gross Income Premium Amount					
1	\$1354	\$1581	\$1806	\$2258	\$2709	\$3160
	to	to	to	to	to	and
	\$1580	\$1805	\$2257	\$2708	\$3159	over
	\$ 48	\$ 69	\$ 107	\$ 134	\$ 161	\$ 187
2	\$1822	\$2126	\$2430	\$3037	\$3644	\$4251
	to	to	to	to	to	and
	\$2125	\$2429	\$3036	\$3643	\$4250	over
	\$ 65	\$ 93	\$ 145	\$ 182	\$ 218	\$ 254

3010.25.00 INCOME STANDARDS (MED 2)

The MED 2 income standards are based on the TANF standards.

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for MA C, MA 3, MA Q, MA U, MA T, MA O, and MA M, categories of assistance. (f14)

For all MED 2 categories other than MA Q, the AG's net income may not exceed the monthly income standard. For MA Q only: AGs with income exceeding the standard may be eligible for Medical Assistance under the spend-down provision.

<b>AG WITH A PARENT INCLUDED</b>			
<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>
1	\$139.50	6	\$463.50
2	229.50	7	522.00
3	288.00	8	580.50
4	346.50	9	639.00
5	405.00	10	697.50
Each Additional Member + \$58.50		Each Additional Member + \$58.50	

  

<b>AG WITH CHILDREN ONLY</b>			
<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>
1	\$139.50	6	\$432.00
2	198.00	7	490.50
3	256.50	8	549.00
4	315.00	9	607.50
5	373.50	10	666.00
Each Additional Member + \$58.50		Each Additional Member + \$58.50	

**3010.26.00 TRANSITIONAL MA STANDARDS (MA F)**

There is no income standard for the first six months of eligibility. Beginning with the seventh month, the AG's average gross monthly earnings (minus child care expenses) must be equal to or less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level for TMA eligibility to continue. (f15) The income standards effective 03/01/09 are shown below:

<b>TMA STANDARDS</b>			
<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>EARNINGS</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>EARNINGS</b>
1	\$1670	5	\$3976
2	\$2247	6	\$4553
3	\$2823	7	\$5130
4	\$3400	8	\$5706
For each additional member, add \$577.			

**3010.30.00 INCOME STANDARDS (MED 3)**

There are no income standards for the MA E category of assistance.

The income standards for the MA 2, MA Y, MA Z, MA N, MA 9 and MA 10 categories of assistance are based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The size of the AG determines the income standard to be used. Gross income and net income may not exceed the standards in order for financial eligibility to exist. The following sections list the standards to be used in the consideration of income.

3010.30.05 Income Standards/Child Age 6 - 19 (MED 3)

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the MA 2 (MA for a Child Age 6 - 19) category of assistance effective March 1, 2009. Financial eligibility exists if net income is less than or equal to the standards per AG size. (f16) The income standard is based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Level.

AG SIZE	NET INCOME STANDARD	AG SIZE	NET INCOME STANDARD
1	\$ 903	5	\$2150
2	1215	6	2461
3	1526	7	2773
4	1838	8	3085
For each additional member, add \$312.			

3010.30.10 Income Standards/Child Age 1 - 6 (MED 3)

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the MA Z (MA for a Child Age 1 - 6) category of assistance effective March 1, 2009. (f17) The income standard is based on 133% of Federal Poverty Level.

AG SIZE	NET INCOME STANDARD	AG SIZE	NET INCOME STANDARD
<u>1</u>	<u>\$1201</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>\$2859</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>1615</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3273</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3688</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>2444</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4102</u>
For each additional member, add \$415			

3010.30.15 Income Standards/Child Under 19 (MED 3)

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the following groups: children age 1-5, 133-150% FPL; children 6-18, 100-150% FPL. The category is MA 9. The standards are effective March 1, 2009. (f18) (Refer to

Section 1620.86 for an explanation of this category). The income standard is based on 150% of Federal Poverty Level.

<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>NET INCOME STANDARD</b>
<u>1</u>	<u>\$1354</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>\$3224</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>1822</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3692</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>2289</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4159</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>2757</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4627</u>
For each additional member, add \$ 468			

3010.30.20 Certain Children, Pregnancy & HIP Standards/  
Premiums (MED 3)

This chart lists the monthly income standards for MA Y (Infants Under Age One, Package A); MA N (Pregnant Women, Package B); MA14 (Foster Care Independence, Package A), the initial income test for MA10 (Package C, Children's Health Plan) and MAHN (Non-Custodial Adults age 19-64) and MAHC (Custodial Adults age 19-64). These standards are based on 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and effective March 1, 2009.

Effective October 1, 2008, MA10 assistance groups which fail the initial income test because their total net incomes exceed 200% of the Federal Poverty Level will have their financial eligibility determined under an MA10 expansion which is explained in Section 3460.15.05. The income standards and premiums for the expansion are found in Section 3010.30.25.

MA10 premium amounts are based on family income and number of children covered. There are no premiums for MA Y, MA N, or MA14.

<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>MONTHLY LIMIT</b>	
	<b>TIER 1 (175% FPL)</b>	<b>TIER 2 (200% FPL)</b>
1	\$ 1580	\$ 1805
2	\$ 2125	\$ 2429
3	\$ 2671	\$ 3052
4	\$ 3216	\$ 3675
5	\$ 3762	\$ 4299

AG SIZE	MONTHLY LIMIT	MONTHLY LIMIT
	TIER 1 (175% FPL)	TIER 2 (200% FPL)
6	\$ 4307	\$ 4922

The chart below shows the monthly premium amounts for MA10 category effective February 1, 2006. There has been no subsequent adjustment in the amounts. Please note that these premium amounts apply only to assistance groups which have passed the initial income test at 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Premium amounts for assistance groups failing the initial test, but eligible under the MA10 expansion are found at Section 3010.30.25.

MONTHLY PREMIUMS		
NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TIER 1	TIER 2
1	\$ 22.00	\$ 33.00
2 or More	\$ 33.00	\$ 50.00

3010.30.25 MA10 Expansion Standards/Premiums (MED 3)

The income standards below are effective March 1, 2009 and are for the MA10 expansion, effective October 1, 2008, and are set at 250% of the federal poverty level guidelines.

AG SIZE	MONTHLY LIMIT	MONTHLY LIMIT
	TIER 1 (225% FPL)	TIER 2 (250% FPL)
1	\$ 2031	\$ 2257
2	\$ 2732	\$ 3036
3	\$ 3434	\$ 3815
4	\$ 4135	\$ 4594
5	\$ 4836	\$ 5373
6	\$ 5537	\$ 6153

The chart below shows the monthly premium amounts for the MA10 expansion, effective October 1, 2008.

MONTHLY PREMIUMS

NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TIER 1	TIER 2
1	\$ 42.00	\$ 53.00
2 or More	\$ 53.00	\$ 70.00

**3010.35.00 INCOME STANDARDS (MED 4)**

Income standards for Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB), Qualified Disabled Worker (QDW), and Qualified Individual (QI) are based on the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. The size of the AG determines the income standard to be used. If countable income exceeds the standard, the applicant/recipient is not financially eligible. (f19)

**3010.35.05 QMB Income Standards (MED 4)**

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the QMB (MA L) category of assistance effective March 1, 2009. This standard is based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

AG SIZE	INCOME STANDARD	AG SIZE	INCOME STANDARD
1	\$ 903	5	\$2150
2	1215	6	2461
3	1526	7	2773
4	1838	8	3085
Family Member Standard: \$ 312			

**3010.35.10 SLMB Income Standards (MED 4)**

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the SLMB category of assistance effective March 1, 2009. This standard is based on 120% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

FAMILY SIZE	INCOME STANDARD	FAMILY SIZE	INCOME STANDARD
1	\$ 1083	5	\$2579
2	1457	6	2953
3	1831	7	3327
4	2205	8	3701
Family Member Standard: \$374			

3010.35.15 QDW Income Standards (MED 4)

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the QDW (MA G) category of assistance effective March 1, 2009. This standard is based on 200% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>INCOME STANDARD</b>	<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>INCOME STANDARD</b>
1	\$1805	5	\$4299
2	2429	6	4922
3	3052	7	5545
4	3675	8	6169
Each Additional Member: + \$ 624			

3010.35.20 QI Income Standards (MED 4)

This chart lists the monthly income standards to be used for the QI (MA I) effective March 1, 2009. This standard is based on 135% of the Federal Poverty Levels.

<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>MA I INCOME STANDARD</b>	<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>INCOME STANDARD</b>
1	\$1219	5	\$2902
2	1640	6	3323
3	2060	7	3743
4	2481	8	4164
Each Additional Member: + \$421			

**3015.00.00 DEPENDENT CARE STANDARDS (F, MED 2, MED 3)**

The dependent care standard is the maximum expense deduction for dependent care costs that is allowed for an assistance group in order to determine financial eligibility or provide child care payment. The actual cost of care up to the standard amount is allowed.

Effective 10/08 there is no maximum expense deduction for dependent care costs for the Food Stamp Program. The assistance group's actual cost is allowed as a deduction in the budget.

**3015.05.00 DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTION STANDARDS (MED 2, MED 3)**

The maximum child care or incapacitated adult care deduction that may be allowed for each dependent participating AG

member is based on the age of the dependent and the number of hours of employment per month. The actual cost of care up to the monthly amounts listed below is allowed. (f22)

<b>Monthly Hours Employed</b>	<b>Dependent Under 2 Years of Age</b>	<b>Dependent 2 Years of Age or Older</b>
Over 129 hours	\$200 per member	\$175 per member
129 hours or less	\$199 per member	\$174 per member

**3020.00.00 UTILITY STANDARDS (F)**

Two Utility Standards exist for Food Stamps. The first Utility Standard is available to AG's which have a primary heating/cooling expense or receive or expect to receive an Energy Assistance Payment (EAP). This standard amount is \$433 effective 4/1/09 regardless of AG size. The second Utility Standard is available to AG's which do not have a primary heating/cooling expense but do have at least two of the expenses included in this standard (electricity or fuel for purposes other than heating or cooling, water, sewerage, well and septic tank installation and maintenance, telephone and garbage or trash collection). This standard amount is \$172 (effective 4/1/09) regardless of AG size. Both standards include the standard telephone amount regardless of whether the AG has a current telephone expense. Refer to Section 3440.10.00 through 3440.20.00 for further clarification.

**3025.00.00 FOOD STAMP RELATED STANDARDS (F)**

In the calculation of the Food Stamp budget, certain standard deductions are allowed in addition to the deductions stated in the previous sections. The following sections discuss the earned income deduction and the standard deduction.

**3025.05.00 EARNED INCOME DEDUCTION (F)**

Twenty percent (20%) of gross earned income is allowed as an earned income deduction in the financial eligibility determination. No additional deductions are allowed from earned income except for costs of self-employment. (f26)

**3025.10.00 STANDARD DEDUCTION (F)**

All assistance groups receive a flat standard deduction in the financial eligibility determination. (f27) Effective 10/01/02 the current, fixed standard was replaced with a deduction that varies according to household size and is

adjusted annually for cost-of-living increases. Larger households will receive a higher deduction.

Effective 10/01/09 the following standard deduction figures apply:

1 Member	\$141
2 Members	\$141
3 Members	\$141
4 Members	\$153
5 Members	\$179
6 Members Or More	\$205

**3025.15.00 EXCESS SHELTER EXPENSE DEDUCTION (F)**

All assistance groups which do not contain an elderly or disabled member(s) may receive a shelter deduction up to a maximum of \$459. See Section 3445.20.05.

An ineligible alien who is elderly or disabled does not entitle the assistance group to the uncapped shelter deduction. The ineligible alien is subject to the maximum shelter deduction amount.

**3030.00.00 WORK EXPENSE DISREGARD (C)**

An earned income work expense disregard of \$90 is allowed to participating AG members in the financial eligibility determination. (f28) An earned income work expense disregard of \$90 is allowed to nonparticipating AG members and to sanctioned individuals. (f29)

**3035.00.00 MA EARNED INCOME DISREGARD (MED 2, MED 3)**

An earned income work expense disregard of \$90 is allowed to AG members in the financial eligibility determination. An earned income work disregard of \$90 is allowed to the nonrecipient parent of a minor MA M or MA N applicant/recipient. (f30)

**3040.00.00 GENERAL INCOME DISREGARD (MED 1, 4)**

The general income disregards for MA A, MA B, MA D, MADW and MADI AGs is \$15.50. (f31) For MA L (QMB), MA J (SLMB), MA G (QDW), MA I (QI-1) and AGs it is \$20.00.

**3041.00.00      MEDICARE PART D BENCHMARK (MED 1)**

The Medicare Part D Benchmark effective 1-1-09 is \$33.95. (The Medicare Part D Benchmark effective 1-1-08 through 12-31-08 was \$33.50).

**3045.00.00      GENERAL EARNED INCOME DISREGARD (MED 1 MED 4)**

In the eligibility determination, \$65 per month of all earned income, plus 1/2 of the remaining earned income, is disregarded. The earned income disregard is applied once to the AG's combined total earned income. (f32)

**3046.00.00      SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY AMOUNT (MED 1)**

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) is the limitation on gross earnings that is used to determine categorical eligibility. The amount is \$980 effective January 1, 2009.

**3047.00.00      MINIMUM EARNINGS FOR M.E.D. WORKS IMPROVED CATEGORY (MED 1)**

The monthly minimum earnings amount for MADI is \$234. This is calculated by multiplying the federal minimum wage, currently as of July 24, 2007, \$5.85 times 40. (f33)

**3050.00.00      MAXIMUM BENEFITS (F, C)**

There is a maximum benefit amount based on AG size for the Food Stamp and Cash Assistance programs. These maximum amounts are listed in the following sections.

**3050.05.00      MAXIMUM BENEFITS (F)**

This chart lists the maximum monthly Food Stamp benefits per AG effective 4/1/09.

<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>	<b>AG SIZE</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>
1	\$ 200	6	\$ 952
2	367	7	1052
3	526	8	1202
4	668	9	1352
5	793	10	1502
Each Additional Member: + \$ 150			

**3050.10.00      MAXIMUM BENEFITS (C)**

The following charts indicate the maximum monthly Cash Assistance benefits per AG based upon the composition of the AG and number of participating members. There are separate charts for AGs which include a recipient parent/caretaker and AGs which only include children.

The maximum benefit is based on 90% of an AG's need standard, rounded down to the next whole dollar.

<b>MAXIMUM BENEFITS</b>			
<b>AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER</b>			
<b>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>	<b>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>
1	\$ 139	6	\$ 463
2	229	7	522
3	288	8	580
4	346	9	639
5	405	10	697

  

<b>MAXIMUM BENEFITS</b>			
<b>AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY</b>			
<b>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>	<b>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</b>	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</b>
1	\$ 139	6	\$ 432
2	198	7	490
3	256	8	549
4	315	9	607
5	373	10	666

For AGs containing more than 10 participating members, add \$65 to the need standard (Section 3010.15.00) for each additional AG member. Multiply the need standard by 90% and round down to the nearest dollar.

**3099.00.00 FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER 3000**

Following are the footnotes for Chapter 3000:

- (f1) Food Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002
- (f2) 470 IAC 10.1-3-1
- (f2a) I.C. 12-14-2-5.1(c) (2)
- (f3) 405 IAC 2-3-15; 405 IAC 2-9-4
- (f4) 405 IAC 2-3-15;  
Social Security Act, Section 1924(f) (2) (A)
- (f5) Social Security Act, Section 1905(p) (1) (C)
- (f6) 7 CFR 273.9
- (f7) I.C. 12-14-2-5

(f8) 45 CFR 233.20(a)(2)  
(f8a) 470 IAC 14-3-6  
(f9) 405 IAC 2-3-8  
(f10) 405 IAC 2-3-21; 405 IAC 2-3-17; IC 12-15-7-2  
(f11) Section 3203 of Title 38 U.S.C. as amended by  
OBRA-90 (P.L. 101-508)  
(f12) 405 IAC 2-3-17; Social Security Act,  
Section 1924(d)  
(f13) 405 IAC 2-3-17; Social Security Act,  
Section 1924(d)  
(f14) 45 CFR 233.20(a)(2)  
(f15) Social Security Act, Section 1925  
(f16) Social Security Act, Section 1902(l)(2)  
(f17) Social Security Act, Section 1902(l)(2)(ii)(II)  
(f18) I.C. 12-15-2-14  
(f19) Social Security Act, Section 1905(P)(2)  
(f21) 7 CFR 273.9(d)(4)  
(f22) Social Security Act, Section (a)(8)(A);  
45 CFR 233.20(a)(11)(i)  
(f23) 45 CFR 255.4(a)(2)(iii)  
(f24) 7 CFR 273.9(d)(6)  
(f26) 7 CFR 273.9(c)  
(f27) Food Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002  
(f28) 45 CFR 233.20(a)(11)(B)  
(f29) Social Security Act, Section 402(a)(31)  
(f30) Social Security Act 402(a)(31)  
(f31) 405 IAC 2-3-3  
(f32) 405 IAC 2-3-3  
(f33) IAC 2-9-5(b)