MANUAL MATERIAL TRANSMISSION WV INCOME MAINTENANCE MANUAL

	1				1.10	
DATE:	January 1, 2007CHANGE NUMBER:443					
TO: ALL INCOME MAINTENANCE MANUAL HOLDERS						
DELETE			INSERT OR CHANGE			
PAGES	CHAPTER	DATED	PAGES	CHAPTER	DATED	
35	10	5/06	35	10	1/07	
36	10	8/01	36	10	8/01	
207	10	1/04	207	10	1/04	
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211	10	8/01	211	10	8/01	
212 - 213	10	10/6	212 - 213	10	10/7	
214	10	8/01	214	10	8/01	
Appendix A	10	10/06	Appendix A	10	1/07	
17	17	1/06	17	17	1/07	
18	17	7/00	18	17	7/00	
21	17	8/98	21	17	8/98	
22	17	12/03	22	17	1/07	
25	17	12/03	25	17	12/03	
26	17	7/06	26	17	1/07	
27 - 28	17	7/06	27 - 29	17	1/07	
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30	17	7/05	31	17	1/07	
31	17	1/06	32	17	8/98	
32	17	8/98				

This change is being made as a result of annual updates which are effective January 2007.

The following Manual Sections were updated, based on the new amounts detailed in this DW-17: Sections 10.3,VVV; 10.22,B,1; 10.22,D,4, items b and c; Appendix A of Chapter 10; 17.9,C,3; 17.9,D,1,e; 17.9,E and 17.10,A.

SPOUSAL ASSET LIMITS AND SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE STANDARD MAXIMUM UPDATES

The minimum community spouse asset limit is \$20,328, the maximum is \$101,640.

The maximum SMS is \$2,541. The minimum amount will change in July 2007.

RAPIDS will provide a list of AG's affected by the maximum SMS change. No mass change will be run by RAPIDS.

The new amounts are effective in RAPIDS beginning January 2007.

RAPIDS will also update the Asset Assessment with the new minimum and maximum amounts effective January 2007.

Chapter 10, Appendix A was updated with the maximum SMS and SSI amounts which are effective January 2007. The 300% SSI Payment Level was changed.

SSI UPDATES

The updated SSI and RSDI amounts apply to all applicants beginning January 1, 2007. New SSI and RSDI amounts for recipients are updated at the time of the RAPIDS Mass Change for the 2007 COLA update which is effective March 2007. Any other updated amounts, such as the payee representative fee or SSI student earned income disregard, are changed at the next redetermination or contact.

New SSI amounts effective January 2007 are:

Single Individual	\$623
Couple	\$934
SSI-Related Allocation Standard	\$311
300% of SSI Payment Level	\$1,869

The standard Medicare, Part B premium is \$93.50 effective January 2007. Beginning in January, 2007, some Medicare enrollees may pay a higher Part B premium. This is known as the income-related monthly adjustment amount and is based on income reported for taxes. In 2007, the other Part B premium amounts are \$106.00, \$124.70, \$143.30 and \$162.10. Although we anticipate that few, if any, DHHR program applicants/recipients will pay these higher amounts, we are providing this for your information. No adjustment in the standard premium is applicable unless a beneficiary files an individual tax return with income of at least \$80,000 or beneficiaries file a joint tax return with income of at least \$160,000.

The SSI student child earned income disregard increases to \$1,510 per month, with a maximum yearly disregard of \$6,100, effective January 2007.

The maximum limit for fees collected by a qualified organization for acting as a representative payee for certain SSI and RSDI recipients increased to \$34 and \$66.

We are removing the requirement to round up the Medicare premium and amounts for the non-reimbursable medical expense for those in nursing homes. RAPIDS uses dollars and cents to calculate the exact contribution amount, based on exact expense amounts, so there is no longer a need to round up. The original purpose of rounding was to insure the individual had the funds, after his contribution to the nursing home, to pay the Medicare premium and other deductible expenses and allowances from the post-eligibility process. This was because the previous data system only accepted whole dollar amounts. This change also prevents confusion with the Medicare premium amount used for other benefits.

Policy questions should be directed to the DFA Economic Services Policy Unit.

Questions regarding RAPIDS updates should be directed to the RAPIDS Help Desk.