

Medicaid Eligibility Procedure Letter No. 108

Effective Date: February 16, 2016

OAC Rules: 5160:1-3-6.2

To: All Medicaid Eligibility Manual Holders

From: John B. McCarthy, Director

Subject: Medicaid Resource Assessment - calculation of the Community Spouse Resource Allowance (CSRA)

Reason for Change: The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) has changed its policy regarding the treatment of the home with respect to calculating the Community Spouse Resource Allowance (CSRA).

Prior Policy: If the home was deeded in a revocable trust but not deeded in the individual's name or the individual's spouse's name, the home was counted in the resource assessment. As a result, the value of the home was included in the CSRA calculation. Additionally, if the home, after the resource assessment, was transferred out of a trust and into the individual's name or the individual's spouse's name, the transfer was deemed improper.

New Policy: When excludable resources are put into a revocable trust the placement of that resource into the trust does not change the excludable nature of the resource. Because federal law excludes the value of the home from the CSRA calculation, the value of the home shall be excluded in the calculation of the CSRA even if the home is deeded in a revocable trust. If the home is transferred from the revocable trust to one or both spouse's names that transfer is not improper.

Action Required: Effective immediately, workers must exclude the value of the home when calculating the CSRA. If the home is deeded to a revocable trust, workers must subtract the value of the home from the trust when determining the CSRA. If the home is transferred out of a revocable trust to one of both spouse's name, workers should not deem the transfer improper.

Please contact ODM Eligibility Technical Assistance at:
Medicaid_Eligibility_TA@Medicaid.Ohio.gov for further assistance or clarification regarding the processing of specific cases. If additional assistance is needed, please contact the CRISE Help Desk at CRISE_HELPDESK@jfs.ohio.gov.

This information is also available on the Internet and may be accessed at:
www.medicaid.ohio.gov.