

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, the following is a concise explanatory statement:

AGENCY: Executive Office of Health and Human Services

DIVISION: Medicaid

RULE IDENTIFIER: 210-RICR-40-05-1

RULE TITLE: Medicaid for Elders and Adults with Disabilities: Community Medicaid (210-RICR-40-05-1)

REASON FOR RULEMAKING: This amendment reflects a change in the income eligibility requirements for the Medicare Premium Payment Program that was made in the fiscal year (FY) 2026 Enacted Budget. The FY 2026 budget increased the effective income limit for Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMBs) and Qualifying Individuals (QIs) by applying income disregards. The effective income limits increased from 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 125 percent FPL for QMB, and from 135 percent FPL to 168 percent FPL for QI. This amendment includes other technical and clarifying edits.

ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE: N/A

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS: EOHHS received two comments in support of the proposed increase in the effective income limit for the Medicare Premium Payment Program. EOHHS did not make changes in response to these comments.

CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE: N/A

REGULATORY ANALYSIS: This update is required to align with the FY 2026 Enacted Budget. Other technical revisions are expected to clarify current practice. In the development of this proposed adoption, consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information. For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.