



State of New Mexico
Health Care Authority
Human Services Register



I. DEPARTMENT
NEW MEXICO HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

II. SUBJECT
8.200.510 NMAC, GENERAL RECIPIENT POLICIES, RESOURCE STANDARDS
8.200.520 NMAC, GENERAL RECIPIENT RULES, INCOME STANDARDS
8.291.430 NMAC, AFFORDABLE CARE, FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
REQUIREMENTS

III. PROGRAM AFFECTED
(TITLE XIX) MEDICAID

IV. ACTION
EMERGENCY RULES

V. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The New Mexico Health Care Authority (HCA), through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), has filed an emergency amendment to the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) *8.200.510 NMAC, General Recipient Policies, Resource Standards, 8.200.520 NMAC, General Recipient Rules, Income Standards, and 8.291.430 NMAC, Affordable Care, Financial Responsibility Requirements.*

Section 9-8-6 NMSA 1978, authorizes the Department Secretary to promulgate rules and regulations that may be necessary to carry out the duties of the Department and its divisions.

Notice Date: May 19, 2026

Adoption Date: The COLA changes are effective January 1, 2026. The FPL changes are effective April 1, 2026.

Technical Citations: HHS 2026 Federal Poverty Guidelines and 2026 SSA COLA Fact Sheet

Background

The Department is amending these rules to implement the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) updates to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) income limits for Medicaid categories of eligibility to be effective April 1, 2026, as required by HHS. The Department is also implementing the annual cost of living allowance (COLA) increase that went into effect on

January 1, 2026.

The HCA has amended the rules as follows:

8.200.510 NMAC

Section 11 is amended to reflect current COLA for Community Spouse Resource Allowance. Section 12 is amended to reflect the current COLA for Post-Eligibility Calculation (Medical Care Credit).

Section 13 is amended to reflect the current COLA for Average Monthly Cost of Nursing Facilities for Private Patients.

Section 15 is amended to reflect the COLA for current Excess Home Equity Amount for Long-Term Care Services.

8.200.520 NMAC

Section 11 is amended to reflect updated FPL limits.

Section 12 is amended to reflect the COLA increase.

Section 13 is amended to reflect the increase in the Federal Benefit Rates.

Section 15 is amended to reflect the increase in SSI Living Arrangement Amounts.

Section 16 is amended to reflect the increase in the monthly income standard for Institutional Care and Home and Community Based Waiver Services Categories.

Section 20 is amended to reflect the increase in the Covered Quarter Income Standard.

8.291.430 NMAC

Section 10 is amended to reflect 2026 FPL guidelines.

VI. RULES

These amendments will be contained in 8.200.510, 8.200.520, and 8.291.430 NMAC. The emergency register and rule languages are available on the HCA website at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/lookingforinformation/register/>. If you do not have internet access, a copy of the final register and rules may be requested by contacting the Medical Assistance Division at (505) 827-1337.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE

The COLA rules are effective January 1, 2026. The FPL rules are effective April 1, 2026.

VIII. PUBLICATION

Publication of these rules approved by:

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KARI ARMIJO, SECRETARY
NEW MEXICO HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY