



STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

OHCA 2013-02

July 17, 2013

**Re: Revision of Community Spouse Allowance for Home and Community-Based Services**

Dear Member,

This letter is to notify you of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's (OHCA) recent policy changes regarding how to calculate vendor payments for Nursing Facility and Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS).

These changes are effective July 1, 2013. A brief overview of the change is described below. To review the entire policy, please visit OHCA's public website and look at policy sections [OAC 317:35-9-68](#), and [OAC 317:35-19-21](#).

This change affects some married couples who receive long-term care services through SoonerCare. When one spouse is in a nursing facility and the other is receiving Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) (such as ADvantage), the spouse in the nursing facility can now give the spouse at home more of his or her income in the community spouse allowance. This means that the spouse in the nursing facility can give part of his or her income to the spouse who receives services at home before the nursing facility (or vendor) payment owed by the spouse residing in a nursing facility is calculated.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this letter, please contact (800) 522-0114.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garth L. Splinter, M.D.".

Garth L. Splinter, M.D.  
State Medicaid Director