

12/1/20

Bulletin No. 20-10

P-2150E

P-2150 Desk Reviews (continued)

E. 3SquaresVT Desk Review

1. Standards Changes

The following 3SquaresVT changes usually are effective October 1 but may have a different effective date based on federal budget negotiations and approval dates for standards that Vermont calculates:

- standard household deduction
- maximum shelter cost deduction for non-senior/disabled
- fuel and utility standards with heat, without heat, and phone only
- homeless shelter deduction
- maximum gross and net income limits
- thrifty food plan (TFP) amounts
- allotment tables
- business expenses for providing room and/or board
- business expenses for providing day care meals and snacks

Since business expenses for providing room and board are based on food costs, those standards change with this desk review for all programs. Business expenses for providing day care meals and snacks, based on federal childcare program reimbursement rates, also change for all programs.

2. Room and Board Income Cases

• Household Member Status

When the thrifty food plan amounts change, there is a corresponding change in the minimum amount a person must pay for board or room and board to be excluded from the 3SquaresVT household.

For ongoing (NOT pending) cases at desk review, ACCESS will increase the board, or room and board, income amount for all 3SquaresVT cases with people paying at or above the current minimum (or two-thirds of it) but less than the new minimum (or two-thirds of it).

• Income to the Household

ACCESS will apply the new business expense deductions to clients with RBIN (room and board income) panels who were desk-reviewed.