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**TO:** Bradley S. Green, Medicaid Policy Unit Manager  
DFCS Office of Family Independence

**FROM:** Stacy Merriweather, Eligibility Policy Manager *SMM*  
Policy, Compliance, and Operations Office

**SUBJECT:** **2026 Statewide Average Monthly Private Pay Rate for Determining Transfer of Assets**

**DATE:** March 31, 2026

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Effective April 1, 2026, the statewide average nursing facility private pay rate used in determining the penalty period for institutionalized individuals (nursing facility and home and community based waiver programs) who transfer assets for less than the fair market value will increase from **\$10,798.00** to **\$11,122.00**.

Please issue a numbered bulletin to expedite the dissemination of this information to field staff and update Georgia Gateway and all applicable sections of the Office of Family Independence Medicaid Policy and Procedure manual to reflect this clarification. Should you or your staff have questions, please feel free to contact Stacy Merriweather at 470-580-4016 or [stacy.merriweather@dch.ga.gov](mailto:stacy.merriweather@dch.ga.gov).

**Cc:** Lynnette Rhodes, Chief Health Policy Officer  
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