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**State of Wisconsin
Governor Jim Doyle**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators**

**FROM: Amy Mendel-Clemens, Section Chief
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Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability**

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|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO | | |
| No: 10-21 | | |
| DATE: 3/22/2010 | | |
| FS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MA <input type="checkbox"/> | BC+ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SC <input type="checkbox"/> | CTS <input type="checkbox"/> | FSET <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | BC+ CORE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CC <input type="checkbox"/> | W-2 <input type="checkbox"/> | EA <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CF <input type="checkbox"/> | JAL <input type="checkbox"/> | JC <input type="checkbox"/> |
| RAP <input type="checkbox"/> | WIA <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> * |
| EP | | |

SUBJECT: Disregarding Income from Temporary Census Employment for FoodShare

CROSS REFERENCE: Operations Memo 09-25

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2010

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to communicate the change in FoodShare policy regarding income received by individuals temporarily working either full or part time for the U.S. Bureau of the Census as census takers and enumerators for the 2010 Census.

BACKGROUND:

Effective April 28, 2009, workers were instructed to count the wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2010 activities when determining eligibility for FoodShare. The income was disregarded for the Health Care Programs. The Department of Health Services recently received a Waiver from FNS effective January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010 to allow us to disregard this income when determining FoodShare benefits. The census operations for temporary employment are expected to last from March 1, 2010 through July 31, 2010. The exemption is effective through September 2010 in the event that some census operations extend beyond the projected July 31, 2010 end date.

OLD POLICY:

Count all income paid by the U.S. Census Bureau, including temporary employment related to the 2010 census, as earned income.

NEW POLICY:

Disregard all wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2010 activities when determining eligibility for FoodShare.

This income continues to be disregarded for all Health Care Programs.

- Note: Income from permanent employment with the U.S. Census Bureau has always been counted as earned income for all programs.

CARES:**FOODSHARE (NO CC OR W-2)**

Until CARES updates can be made, use the 'Override Converted Amount' field on the Employment page in CWW to zero out the income for FoodShare when the case is not open for Child Care or W-2. The Employment page, 'Employment Type' field, should continue to be coded as 'C – Census Enumerator' to ensure that the income is disregarded for Health Care.

FOODSHARE (WITH CC OR W-2)

If there is an open Child Care or W-2 Assistance Group on the case, the converted income will have to be entered so it will count for those programs. To offset the income for FoodShare in this situation, enter the gross earnings from the temporary census employment minus 20% in the 'Payment Amount' field on the Support Obligations/Payments page in CWW.

Document these actions in Case Comments.

CONTACTS:

BEPS CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, BC+ Core – BadgerCare Plus Core, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

DHS/DHCAA/BEPS/JB/LA