



DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES
Secretary Eloise Anderson
201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916
Telephone: 608-266-8684
Fax: 608-261-6972
www.dcf.wisconsin.gov

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Secretary Dennis Smith
1 West Wilson Street
P.O. Box 7850
Madison, WI 53707-7850
Telephone: (608) 266-9622
FAX: (608) 266-7882
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov

**State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker**

**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: Richard Albertoni, Bureau Director
Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability**

| BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| No: 11- 28 | | | | | |
| Date: 6/08/2011 | | | | | |
| 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+ Basic | <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: Verification of SSI-E Payments for FoodShare

CROSS REFERENCE FSHB 4.3.4.3

EFFECTIVE DATE: IMMEDIATELY

PURPOSE:

To announce a policy change for FoodShare regarding verification of SSI-E expenses.

BACKGROUND:

Supplemental Security Income- Exceptional Expense (SSI-E) is a monthly cash benefit of up to \$95.99 that is added to the State SSI payment of each SSI recipient who is eligible and certified for the benefit by a county agency.

The federal Food & Nutrition Service allows States to align FoodShare (FS) policy with Medicaid by allowing FS to exclude State complementary assistance program payments, including SSI-E payments that are excluded for the purpose of determining eligibility for Medicaid. Once it has been determined that a source of income is excluded for FS, determining how the payment is spent must not be included as part of the FS benefit determination.

OLD POLICY:

Currently SSI-E income is counted unearned income. Certain verified expenses can be deducted from the SSI-E payment before counting the income. (See FSHB 4.3.4.2 #5)

NEW POLICY:

SSI-E income is disregarded income for FS. It is no longer necessary to determine if a SSI-E payment is being used to for its intended purpose in order to disregard the income.

CARES:

Until CARES can be updated to disregard SSI-E income for FS, the total amount of the SSI-E payment should be entered on the SSIE expense field on the Unearned Income page in CWW with an "NA" as the verification code. Workers must update open, ongoing cases when a change is reported or at the next renewal or SMRF.

| Disregards and Expenses | | | |
|--|----|-------|-----------------------------------|
| SSI Pass Account Amount: | \$ | | |
| SSIE Expenses: | \$ | 95.99 | Verification: NA - DOES NOT APPLY |
| FPU Child Support Disregard Amount: | \$ | . | Current Disregard Amount: \$ |
| SSA COLA / Disabled Adult Children Disregard Amount: | \$ | . | |

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/MR