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

FROM: Amy Mendel-Clemens, Chief  
Technical Assistance and Training Section  
Bureau of Enrollment Management  
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability

BEM/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO					
No:	09-53				
DATE:	10/01/2009				
FS	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>	BC+	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SC	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	FSET	<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	
PRIORITY: HIGH					

SUBJECT: **Voluntary Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program**

**CROSS REFERENCE:** [BadgerCare Plus Eligibility Handbook, Section 7.7](#)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2009

**PURPOSE:**

This memo announces a change in the requirement for parents to cooperate with the Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program.

**BACKGROUND**

Wisconsin's Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) program helps BC+ families pay the employee contribution of their employer sponsored insurance. The HIPP program pays the family's share of the monthly premium, co-insurance, and deductibles associated with the family health plan; along with any BadgerCare Plus covered services not included in the family health plan through fee-for-service (wrap around).

Section 301(b) of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-3), known as CHIPRA, offers States the option to run a new HIPP program for children and their parents. One major difference in the new program, called "premium assistance" in federal

law, is that participation in HIPP would be voluntary. As part of the ongoing efforts in health care outreach, the Department of Health Services has decided to implement this new program effective October 1, 2009.

### ***POLICY CHANGE***

Beginning, October 1, 2009, parents may no longer be sanctioned for failing to cooperate with the HIPP program. This policy applies to both current members and new applicants.

### ***CARES***

Until changes can be made to CARES programming, workers must indicate in CARES that the parents are cooperating with the HIPP program on the Employment Screen. Effective 10/1/2009 workers will no longer be receiving the HIPP failure to cooperate requests from EDS. A list of open cases containing parents who are currently sanctioned for not cooperating with HIPP will be sent to the local agencies. Workers are to change the HIPP cooperation indicator to Yes with an Effective Date of October 2009 for these parents and re-determine eligibility for October and November.

EDS will contact families who are cooperating with the current HIPP requirements to find out if they would like to continue in that program once the requirements change.

### ***CONTACTS***

BEM 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, 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/BEM/