

BENEFITS CLIFF – Q&A

April 18, 2016

Important Information and Updates:
If a TANF recipient has earned income but does not go over the income limit, they may voluntarily close their case and still be eligible for the Employment (EP) payments. (If they are closing because the benefit of TBA is better, or they want their TANF Time Limits to not count)
EML should be coded only on cases that have Earned Income or the first month of employment and needing CCB with no-copay
P2 cases coded with just EP were going NA status Fix: P2 cases are now fixed!! The fix has been in place since Saturday Outcome: All cases currently that are P2 EP and NA – programmers will do an auto update/correction.
When closing TANF cases and converting to M5 or P2 following month, please use a COMPUTE action. Reminder: If workers are coding EP after EOM (end of month) they will need to do a SPL for the first month EP payment. The 437 will be updated with the new SPL codes effective 5/1/16.
Reminder TNC list: The list of cases that have TNC on the n/r line, must be completed before End Of Month April. Remember TNC n/r will no longer work after 5/1.

Question and Answers

Do we need to code the EMI or NAS on a case if there is income (coded EML or SLF) after April 1?	Yes.
NAS and ELI – How are these cases coded? 1. Non-Citizens 2. SSI Recipients 3. Non Needy Care Relatives 4. Active disqualification cases 5. Adult coded NO	If an adult on the case is coded as a NO, you will use the NAS (no adult standard) coding. If the person is an AD on the case, you will use the ELI coding. Please refer to staff tools: http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/ss/tanf/docs/tnc-eli-nas_cheat_sheet_coding.pdf
Are Employment Payments counted against SNAP? Is TBA coded at the same time EP is being received?	If the SNAP case is eligible for TBA then we do not code EP on the SNAP case. If the case does not meet eligibility for TBA, workers will need to average the 225 over 3 months and code 75.00 as OTH on SNAP and remove by the 3 rd month
Since a participant is no longer on TANF, are they eligible for support services if they have a WO?	This process has not changed.
In a program 82, income is combined and puts the HH over income. Do they both get EP?	No. Only one person in the HH can receive EP payments
Someone who was receiving EP while working loses job. Reapplies for TANF. Do we have to send a closure notice?	If that person was reapplying for TANF and TANF is approved, no notice is needed. If EP ends and there is no TANF, a timely notice is required if ending early.

EP coding after TANF ends. Is it P2 or VP	TANF cases that go over income will always be coded M5 or P2
Someone loses job in the three months they are receiving EP. Do we need new application or can we just put them back on?	If they are reapplying for TANF within 30 days of closure, no new app is needed. If applying after the first month then we need an application.
To get EP, must a client report job timely?	Yes. The client must report timely. The client still has the TANF 10 day requirements to meet to be eligible for TBA and EP
If EP is received in May for \$100 and the individual loses their job and reapplies for TANF the same month. Do we count that \$100?	Yes. For that month, the \$100 will be counted and coded OTH on the UCMS case
Someone gets a job on 4/1/16. They did not report until 4/17/16. Are they eligible for TBA and EP?	The rule for reporting requirements states that the client needs to report within 10 days of first pay date.
How do we look at income in regards to first or second paycheck?	Income calculation and how it has processed has not changed. The only change is that the exit limit increase is higher.
Can we code WO without paystubs?	This process and requirement has not changed. You can code the step WO, but cannot start it until verification of actual worked hours is received.
Are there times when NAS could be coded without EML?	Workers with EML or SLF will always be prompted to add NAS or ELI
Can EML and JPI be coded on the UCMS case and not FSMIS?	Yes. JPI cannot be coded on FSMIS until the EP payments end.
If we can't code JPI on FSMIS at the same as an EP payment, how will workers know to change it at the 4 th month?	Workers will need to track and monitor those cases for the adjustment to TBA on the fourth month.
After coding the RCP for the reduced copay, will the system let us know what the regular copay will be after the three months?	Workers will need to use the ERDC Calculator to determine what the 4 th month copay will be. Once RCP is coded, the system will only show 27.00
If someone is working and is not OVI, why do we have to code the ELI or NAS?	This code tells the system to look at the higher Exit Limit Increase part of the charts
When ending employment payments, what do you mark on the 456? – <i>Answer given was to use Other, not support payment.</i>	Workers will use Other and explain what is ending and why.
For Non-Citizen TANF we now prorate EML. Do we do the same if it's unearned income other than child support? Recipient is receiving \$300 /mo gift.	Any non-citizen income is prorated (EML, SUP, UC, OTH, etc.)
Client has EML on case, new job. In reviewing the Child Support screens it would benefit her to get all of the support and not just the pass through. This combined will put family over income for TANF. When creating the new case to P2 we add the EP1, 2 3. Do we not code the unearned income?	Unearned income should also be coded if the TANF case remains open and we have verification

<p>A participant is currently in a JOBS Plus position. When the position ends, they will be hired and will received unsubsidized income. Are they eligible for EP?</p>	<p>Yes. This would be unsubsidized earned income. They are also eligible for TBA if they go over the income limit for TANF</p>
<p>Customers who do not cooperate to the JOBS program, they have active DQ. They report they have income and their income is over TANF income limit. Do they eligible for EP?</p>	<p>This depends on if the worker determines there is good cause. If they are a NO they will become an AD and would be eligible for EP</p>
<p>When RCP is on the last month, do the system will auto send the notice regarding increase child care copay? If not, which NOTM do we need to send and what is the OAR #?</p>	<p>The NOTMCMRCP01. Workers will add the start and end date for RCP and what the copay will be by the 4th month.</p>
<p>I have another two questions added on my previous email regarding the TANF Reinvestment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If participants income is less than TANF exit income limit, and they receive less than \$10 a month (TANF grant – 50% EML), we will closure TANF. Do we use OAR for over TANF income limit? 2) I have two parents HH and they have 8 children, the total is 10 people. Two parents and 7 children receive TANF (one kid receives SSI income). Dad reports to me he is WO; 40 hours per week, and gets paid 10 per hours. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His EML is \$1720 < TANF Exit Limit (\$2186). The family receives \$1093 a month in TANF. So $1720/2 = 860$. Customer is still able to receive \$233 a month in TANF (\$1093-\$860). The family is meeting participation as the husband is working more than 35 hours per week. Customer will have 852 due soon. At that time, we have to add income on SNAP case, it is not benefit the family at all. • Also, if he wants to close TANF benefit because he does not want to add on TANF time limit, I will not have the placement and customer will not receive EP. What should I do in this case? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) This is no change then what we have always done. When a case is OVI we send notice. 2) You need to add income if it is verified for SNAP. 3) I am not sure why you would not receive placement? He is working with a WO step and you have attendance if you have verification. If you have EML coded and he decides to close case, so not to use Time Limits, he can. He would be eligible for EP
<p>When customers report a job loss and does not provide verification of job loss, will their EP continue through three months?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If verification of job loss and verified job loss is received, we close down EP early with timely decision notice. On timely decision notice, which option we check? (cash, medical, ERDC, JPI, SNAP or support service?) and what is OAR # for the closure. 	<p>Yes. If the client does not report a job loss, the EP will continue.</p> <p>If they report they lost their job, EP would end and notice will need to be sent – UNLESS they apply for and receive TANF again.</p> <p>Ending of benefits on the notice may go under Other and you will use the EP rule for start.</p>