

**Select originating cluster**

/s/ Belit Stockfleth

**Authorized Signature**

**Number:** SS-IM-08-010

**Issue Date:** 03/12/2008

**Topic:** Food Benefits

**Subject:** Categorical Eligibility for Post-TANF Clients

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                        | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers               | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):              |

**Message:** FS cases that receive Post TANF payments are considered categorically eligible. To indicate this, workers code the Cat EI field on FCAS as C.

Most FS cases are categorically eligible due to having income under 185% FPL and receiving the DHS 3400 (*Resource Guide for Low-Income Families*). FSMIS is programmed to test countable income against that 185% standard, which some Post TANF families exceed. Because of this, staff have been unable to get the computer to accept the C coding on these cases. Very few cases are affected by this issue.

We have requested computer support for the future. In the meantime, we are asking staff to code the income on Post TANF cases that exceed 185% as \$1 under that limit. For example, a family of 3 with calculated income of \$2,900 should be coded on FSMIS with income of \$2,713 (\$1 below the \$2,714 cat el limit for their filing group size). This applies only to those cases currently eligible for Post TANF who have income over the 185% FPL limit. This will result in the minimum FS benefit of \$10 for benefit groups of 1 or 2 persons and \$0 calculated benefit, but an open FS case, for larger groups.

The TRACS narrative should include the actual income calculation and the following statement:

***Categorically eligible due to Post TANF. Income exceeds the 185% standard, so is being coded as \$1 under on FSMIS due to a system issue.***

This information is being shared with both QC and the targeted reviewers. No payment error is created by this coding and no errors will be cited in the targeted reviews, as long as the worker action is properly narrated and the appropriate income type codes are used (including OTH for the Post-TANF payment).

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

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