



## **New MAA/MAF Earned Income Exclusion**

Effective October 1, 2008, families who go over income for MAA and MAF due to an increase in the caretaker relative's earned income will have a new earned income exclusion. Exclude increases in earned income that result in MAA/MAF ineligibility until the family meets the three-of-six-months requirement to qualify for EXT.

All MAA/MAF families who go over income because of increase in earned income will be able to transition to EXT.

Eligibility workers will not need to track the end of the exclusion. There will be system coding implemented to support the new policy:

- When a client reports an increase in the caretaker relative's earned income that results in loss of eligibility for MAA or MAF, determine if the client meets the "3-of-6"-month EXT eligibility requirement. If they do, convert to EXT.
- If the family does not meet the "3-of-6"-requirement, add a PIE ("postpone increase in earnings") need/resource item to each person who will receive EXT. Use a Compute action for the first of the next month to add the PIE coding to each MAA/MAF person.
- The PIE end date is the month the client meets the "3-of-6"-month requirement.
- The CM system will convert the CM case to EXT based on the PIE coding and send the EXT approval notice.
- If the client is also receiving TANF, compute to a P2 (or M5) MAA case and add the PIE coding.

## **New Child Support Exclusion (Disregard)**

Effective October 1, a new child support income exclusion will be added to policy:

- Exclude (disregard) the first \$50 per child, per month up to \$200 per financial group for MAA, MAF and SAC.
- A portion of the child support is not counted toward the client's total countable income.
- MAA, MAF and SAC recipients continue to receive all their cash child support, but some of it is excluded (disregarded) for the countable income test.
- Substitute Adoptive Care (SAC) will also allow the disregard. These C5 cases are carried within the Children's Medical Project Team at 5503.
- A new DHS 420A will be implemented October 1, to support the new policy for MAF.
- The DHS 420 will do some of the calculations, but it cannot calculate the cash support disregard or the cash medical support exclusion.

## **Implementation/Transition Instructions:**

**Training/Communication Plan:** The Family Services Manual will be updated for October. A PowerPoint presentation covering the policy changes is attached. It can also be accessed from the link below. The PowerPoint provides an overview of all the October changes, with special emphasis on the new child support disregard for CAF SSP medical programs.

PowerPoint link:

[http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/selfsufficiency/publications/ss-pt-08-028\\_attach\\_2.ppt](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/selfsufficiency/publications/ss-pt-08-028_attach_2.ppt)

Also attached is a Extended Medical 3 of 6 Cheat Sheet, which is also posted on the Medical webpage at [http://www.dhs.state.or.us/training/caf\\_ss\\_medical/index.htm](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/training/caf_ss_medical/index.htm).

## **Local/Branch Action Required:**

**Central Office Action Required:** A transmittal will be sent by the end of September which will include more detail with respect to Child Support Pass-Through and Disregard.

**Field/Stakeholder review:**       Yes       No

**If yes, reviewed by:**

## **Filing Instructions:**

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

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