TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF

FROM: ROBERT J. EVERHARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: UNCAPPED EXCESS SHELTER DEDUCTION

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY

This transmittal provides information about a correction to CARES that affects the uncapped shelter and restates the policy about eligibility for uncapped shelter.

POLICY REMINDER

A household is entitled to an uncapped excess shelter deduction if it contains a member who:

- Is age 60 or older;
- Receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or federally or State administered supplemental benefits of the type described in section 212(a) of Public Law 93-66;
- Receives federally or State administered supplemental assistance of the type described in section 1616(a) of the Social Security Act, SSI interim assistance, disability-related Medical Assistance, or disability-related general assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act. Individuals who receive Public Assistance to Adults (PAA) fall under this category;
- Receives disability or blindness payments under title I, II, X, XIV, or XVI of the Social Security Act or receives disability retirement benefits from a governmental agency because the disability is considered permanent under section 221(i) of the Social Security Act;
- Receives an annuity payment under the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 and is determined eligible to receive Medicare by the Railroad Retirement Board;

- Is a veteran who has a service connected or non-service-connected disability that is rated total, or is considered in need of regular aid and attendance or is permanently housebound;

- Is a surviving spouse of a veteran and is considered in need of regular aid and attendance or is permanently housebound, or is entitled to compensation for a service-connected death or pension benefits for a non-service-connected death under title 38, United States Code, and has a disability considered permanent; or

- Is a child of a veteran who is considered permanently incapable of self-support or is entitled to compensation for a service-connected death or pension benefits for a non-service-connected death under title 38, United States Code, and has a disability considered permanent.

Note: Eligibility for Federal disability-related Medical Assistance is one of the criteria for the uncapped shelter deduction. This means a household that includes a TEMHA recipient with Medical Assistance is entitled to an uncapped shelter deduction.

Please refer to the CARES procedures on the next page.

INQUIRIES

Please direct policy questions to Kay Finegan at (410) 767-7939 and systems questions to David Holland at (410) 767-8494.

ACTION DUE

Although this policy is not new, it is important to review ongoing cases at interim change or next recertification to ensure that the coding is correct and the household has been given the proper shelter deduction.

cc: FIA Management Staff
    Constituent Services
    OIM Help Desk
    CIS Testing Facility
CARES

For payment accuracy it is important to code CARES correctly.

There are two ways to give uncapped shelter. For an elderly customer (age 60 or older), if the correct date of birth is entered on the DEM1 screen, uncapped shelter will be given as shown in the example below:

CHANGE           CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC 1 – DEM1          DEM1 05
Month 09 98      RAN286    08 21 98

Client Name GRANIE        ROSS         CL ID 4450003
Statewide FIP Group
CSB Notification Date
Alt SSN SSN APPL SSN1 V More DOB V Sex Ra
Name Referral Date
569 87 4521 CA 02 12 1825 BC F B

For a disabled customer the Approval Source codes on the DEM2 screen are the codes that prompt CARES to give the customer uncapped shelter when the customer has an eligible disability. These approval source codes are MS, RR, RS, SS, and VA.

NOTE: MP, which was giving uncapped shelter, will no longer give uncapped shelter and MS, which was not giving uncapped shelter, is now giving uncapped shelter.

Remember, just because you enter a disability payment on the UINC screen, this will not result in uncapped shelter. The proper approval source code on the DEM2 is the only way to give uncapped shelter for disability.

A customer who has a disability but is not receiving SSA, SSI, Railroad Retirement, or Veterans Administration benefits must be active MA to have an MS disability approval source.

CHANGE           CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC 2 – DEM2          DEM2 01
Month 09 98      RAQ28A    08 21 98

Client Name JUANITA          A ALBA     Client ID 468000350
Student V Striker
Status Stat
Ind Ctr Dec Date Date Stat
C BC PS H AF PS

-------- Disability/Incapacity --------

Disab/ TEMRA SW Approval Begin Date End Date Loan Date IAR Dat
Incap Type Coop Source (MM YY) (MM YY) (MM YY) (MM DD YY) (MM DD
0 MS 11 97 11 97

Med Rev Treatmt Hlth -----PSH----- OTG Medical Entitled Joint Vet
Recd part V Insu Ind V Date Date V Med A SSI/FS Stat

Vote-Reg Pres@Int TCA Ctr 00 TLEX-Rsn MPEX E DMVIOL Parole CDO
HMO Mang Care Phycian Pharmacy BUYIN TPL Liab

Message
15-lett

22-TPL 23-alau