



**FAMILY
INVESTMENT
ADMINISTRATION**

INFORMATION MEMO

Issuance Date: April 9, 2002

Effective Date: UPON RECEIPT

Control Number: #02-62

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND CASE MANAGERS**

FROM: CHARLES E. HENRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: UNCAPPED SHELTER DEDUCTION

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY:

An uncapped shelter deduction is allowed for food stamp households with aged or disabled members. To qualify, the household must include a recipient over the age of 59 or a recipient with a qualified disability. Not all disabilities qualify.

The following types of disabilities are the only ones that qualify a household for uncapped shelter:

1. Receiving federally or state supplemental benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act (SSA) or,
2. Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or,
3. Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or,
4. Receiving disability payments from the Veteran's Administration equal to 100% (full) disability. (This would include the surviving spouse or child of a veteran considered by the VA to be compensation for a service-connected death or pension benefits for a non-service connected death or,
5. Receiving payment under the Railroad Retirement Act and determined to receive Medicare by the Railroad Retirement Board or,
6. Receiving interim assistance while pending receipt of benefits of Supplemental Security Income; provided that the eligibility to receive these benefits from the State are based upon the same disability criteria under Title XVI of the Social Security Act.

These disability types are supported on CARES through the individual disability approval source code on **DEM2**. The following valid values are the only sources that allow uncapped shelter in food stamp calculations based on disability:

- MS – MRT/SRT (Medical Review Team/State Review Team)
- RR- Railroad Retirement Disability Approval
- RS – SSA Disability Approval
- SS – SSI
- VA – Veteran’s Administration (100% disability)

The Case Manager must carefully review all verifications provided to determine the correct disability type and corresponding approval source code to be entered on CARES.

Another area of the **DEM2** that needs consideration is the disability end date. This date should be 9 filled when the customer has a permanent disability as defined above. The end date must be reviewed anytime the case is updated with new disability information. The end date is not a factor in evaluating uncapped shelter, but it is used in other program applications.

Remember to narrate all actions taken.

Please direct any questions regarding this memorandum to Gina Roberts at (410) 238-1297.

cc: FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk
RESI