



Department of Human Resources
 311 W. Saratoga St.
 Baltimore, MD. 21201-3521

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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

FROM: CHARLES E. HENRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: INDIGENT IMMIGRANTS

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMPS

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

Sponsored immigrants applying for food stamps must have a portion of their sponsor's income deemed available to them. In some cases, immigrants are determined to be without funds for food and shelter because the sponsor has abandoned them or because the sponsor's deemed income and the immigrant's income do not exceed 130% of poverty for the household size. Immigrants without funds for food and shelter are indigent. Indigent immigrants are exempt from having their sponsor's income deemed available to them. **This is a reminder that indigent immigrants must meet all other factors of FS eligibility in order to receive FS.** The determination of indigence does not give the immigrant exemptions to FS eligibility requirements.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) recently reminded state agencies that immigrants who are determined by the agency to be indigent must be reported to the U.S. Attorney General. The name of the sponsored indigent immigrant and the sponsor's name must be forwarded to:

The Attorney General
 US Department of Justice
 950 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, DC 20530-0001

Please refer to the food stamp policy manual SEC.120 and 121 regarding immigrant eligibility for information. In addition, the following action transmittals or information memos have been issued since August 2000 regarding immigrant eligibility:

AT#	ISSUED BY	ISSUE DATE	TOPIC	PROGRAM
01-09	OPRS	8/29/00	Asylee Eligibility for Refugee Resettlement Program Benefits	Info Memo RCA
01-20	CCA/OPD	12/1/00	POC Citizenship and Immigration Requirements	POC
02-02	OPRS	7/17/01	Citizenship and Immigrant Status and Sponsored Immigrants	FS
02-06	OPRS	8/15/01	Interpretation Services for Non-English Speaking Households	ALL
02-08	OPRS	8/23/01	Services for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence	TCA, FS,MA
02-10	OPRS	9/11/01	Verification	FS
02-17	OPRS	9/11/01	Immigrant Victims of Severe Trafficking Treated as Refugees	ALL
02-22	OPRS	10/15/01	Refugee Employment Services	INFO MEMO RCA
02-22 Revised	OPRS	11/14/01	Refugee Employment Services	INFO MEMO RCA

INQUIRIES

Please direct policy questions to Kay Finegan at 410-767-7939 or Marilyn Lorenzo at 410-767-7333.

cc: DHR Executive Staff
 FIA Management Staff
 Constituent Services
 DHR Help Desk
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