



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration
ACTION TRANSMITTAL

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

**FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA
CHERYL A. CAMILLO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OES
ROLF GRAFWALLNER, ASSISTANT STATE SUPERINTENDENT,
DIVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, MSDE**

**RE: CENSUS WORKERS AND EARNINGS FROM TEMPORARY CENSUS
EMPLOYMENT**

**PROGRAMS AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE (TCA), FOOD
SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM, (FSP) MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE, (MA) PURCHASE OF CARE, (POC)**

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY:

Every 10 years the United States Census Bureau completes the census. In October 2008, the Census Bureau will begin hiring temporary census workers. Census earnings will be counted for temporary census workers who are eligible for the Food Supplement Program (FSP). Census earnings will be excluded for temporary census workers who are eligible for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Purchase of Care (POC) and Medical Assistance (MA) programs.

ACTION REQUIRED:

TCA, POC, and MA Programs

Exclude the earnings for TCA, POC, and MA cases. Do not enter the income into CARES or CCATS for these programs.

TCA and WORK Programs

- The Census Bureau is attempting to hire recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TCA in Maryland) for the temporary census worker positions around the country. The workers will work four and six weeks for approximately

29-30 hours per week. The jobs will provide work experience for TCA customers.

- Although we will disregard their temporary census earnings, customers must still report that they are working and verify their hours of attendance.
- The hours worked will count toward the work participation rate, and the case manager must enter the hours into WORKS as WEJ, unsubsidized employment.
- Except for customers who are exempt from TCA work requirements, any customer who quits a census job without good cause is out of compliance with work requirements and is sanctioned following conciliation and sanction policy.

Food Supplement Program

The Food and Nutrition Service is presently not allowing states to exclude the earnings for the Food Supplement Program (FSP). For the FSP the income must still be entered into CARES as earned income. Require the customer to verify the income as usual.

CARES

Enter the income into CARES when there is a FSP case. Process temporary census income as earned income. Code the temporary census income "EI" on the employed person's ERN1 screen. For FSP cases with an associated case, enter the census income on the ERN1 screen as "FS" (FS countable only) in the Income Type field.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct TCA policy inquiries to Marilyn Lorenzo at 410-767-7333 or Gretchen Simpson at 410-767-7937. You may direct FSP policy inquiries to Rick McClendon at 410-767-7307. Purchase of Care questions should be directed to Betsy Blair at 410-767-7845. You may direct Medical Assistance policy questions to the DHMH Division of Eligibility Policy and MCHP at 410-767-1463 or 1-800-492-5231 (select option 2 and request extension 1463). Please direct CARES questions to Fern Hill at 410-767-7064.

cc: DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
MSDE Child Care Subsidy Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk