

## **Policy Clarifications – MA – All PMA-16941-310**

**Submitted:** 11/2013

**Agency:** CAOs

**Subject:** Counting SSI and TANF recipient income in MAGI MA budgets

**Question:** Are there any changes to the way we treat SSI (A, J, M) and TANF (C, U) recipients and their income when determining eligibility for MAGI-related MA?

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**Response By:** Division of Health Services

**Date:** 11/2013

Based on the federal regulations, the treatment of SSI and TANF recipients and their income in MAGI MA determinations is the following:

- If the SSI and/or TANF recipient is a mandatory member of the MAGI budget, they must be included in the MAGI MA household composition.
- The system will count the SSI and TANF recipient(s) as counted members when determining MAGI MA household composition.
- The SSI (code 14) and TANF cash payment income will be excluded from income calculations for the MAGI MA budget.
- All other income of the SSI and TANF recipients will be included in income calculations for the MAGI MA budget, unless this income is excluded under MAGI MA rules.

These changes apply only to MAGI MA. No other MA category will be affected.

The changes will be introduced with the next system release scheduled for November 30, 2013.

**Example:**

Ms. Martin applies for MA for her two children Emily and Jade. Ms. Martin is not required to file taxes. Ms. Martin is disabled and open for J. She receives SSI benefit of \$732.10 a month. She also babysits earning \$100 a month. Each child receives child support of \$100 a month.

MAGI household composition will follow non-filer rules. Each child's household composition will include: Ms. Martin, Emily and Jade. The system will look at the three-person income limit for both Emily and Jade.

Countable income includes Ms. Martin's babysitting earnings of \$100 a month only. SSI and child support are excluded.