Policy Clarifications Cash Assistance - All - PCA13000104 Food Stamp - PFS13000504 Medicaid - All - PMA13000304

Submitted: 4/19/06 Agency: CAOs

Citations: CAH 104.1, MEH 304.1, FSH 504.1

Subject: Application Processing Issues - OPS-06-04-03

RE: OPS Memo 06-04-03, Cash, Medical, and Food Stamps

Several issues quickly come to mind:

- 1. Expedited Services for Food Stamps The Ops memo notes that, "There is no change to policy regarding entitlement to expedited service." Are we correct that since these clients who "reapply" within the 60 days will not be true applicants; that expedited services do not apply? We will however, have to answer the EFS questions in AP.
- 2. Multiple Budgets and Multiple Closure Dates Since a case with MA and FS would not have the same closure date; they would therefore have a different 60 day period. Example: Food stamps close 5/31/06 and MA 5/22/06, client "reapplies" July 25th, less than 60 days from the FS closure, but more than 60 days from the MA closure. Would they need a new application for the MA, but not the FS?
- 3. Referrals for Support Action to DRS Would a Cash "reopen" require a new referral to DRS?
- 4. New Application There are situations where it might be better for the client to file a new application rather than not. What do we do if they file a new application, but it would benefit them if we just reopened without an application?

Response By: Barbara Hummel Date: 5/11/06

- 1. If FS are closed during the certification period, and the household asks for reinstatement without submitting a new application, a review for expedited services is not required. FS will be reinstated until the end of the original certification period. Regulations at 7 CFR 273.2(iv) state that expedited services does not apply if the household reapplies before the end of its current certification period. However, if FS are closed during the certification period, and the household submits a new application form, this will be treated as a new application so a review for expedited service is required. Note that a new certification period is established. For information regarding closing due to untimely recertification, please refer to PFS 12979576.
- 2. Yes, a new application is required for MA as the date is more than 60 days from the closing. A new FS application is also required; please refer to PFS 13022504.
- 3. Yes, the system will automatically send the referral.
- 4. If a new application is submitted, treat it as a new application and process accordingly.