Policy Clarifications Cash Assistance - All - PCA15411150 Medicaid - All - PMA15411350 SNAP - PFS15411550

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Citations:

Subject: Update on UC, EUC and EB in Pennsylvania

Has Congress reinstated the EUC and EB programs? How will these payments affect OIM program eligibility?

Response By: DWRI Date:08/02/10

President Obama signed HR 4213 into law on July 22, 2010. P.L. 111-205, also known as the Unemployment Compensation Act of 2010, is retroactive to June 6, 2010 and:

- extends emergency unemployment compensation (EUC) and
- funds state extended benefits (EB) through November 27, 2010.

This law **does not** extend the additional \$25 weekly payment for new claims filed June 6, 2010 and after.

The PA Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) advises that individuals who had continued to submit EUC and EB claims after June 6 will receive delayed payments. The delayed payment will be received as early as July 27 for some and within one or two weeks for others. Ongoing bi-weekly payments will resume with no delay for most.

In general, any delayed lump sum payments should have no impact on cash, SNAP or medical assistance benefits. There is no change to the process to include UC, EB or EUC payments in the eligibly determination for individuals who resume or begin to receive an ongoing benefit.

IMCWs will act on UC, EUC and EB benefit information that is reported by the UC claimant or that is available on Data Exchange 2 as follows:

Treatment of delayed benefits

 For SNAP: a delayed UC benefit is a lump sum and will be treated as a resource. Resources are excluded for most SNAP households. See <u>SNAPH 540.42</u> and <u>OPS090702</u>.

- For MA: a delayed UC benefit is a lump sum and may be treated as a resource or as income as most benefits the individual. For example, it would be most advantageous to count the delayed UC benefit as a resource for an individual with a family. Resources are excluded for a household with children under 21. See MAH 357 and 340.1
- For TANF and GA: a delayed UC benefit is considered a lump sum payment and is treated as income in the month of receipt. For recipients this is considered as income that starts and stops and is not counted. Any remain funds are counted as a resource in subsequent months. Note that the delayed payment is subject to reimbursement if the UC claimant received a TANF or GA benefit for the period covered by the delayed benefit. See CAH 157 and SH 915.63. In most cash cases the reinstatement will close the cash case due to excess income (ongoing), not as a result of the lump sum payment.

Treatment of ongoing benefits

For all programs (cash, SNAP and MA): ongoing payments of regular UC, EUC and EB benefits are used to determine eligibility. Proper notice must be given before making any change to a benefit.

Reminder: For individuals who still receive the additional \$25 payment, that \$25 is excluded for computing cash, MA and SNAP benefits.

See the <u>Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry's (L&I) home page</u> for announcements or alerts regarding UC.

Also review L&I's <u>Unemployment Compensation</u> link for information on the specifics of available benefits.

PCA15386150/PMA15386350/PFS15386550 has served its purpose and is obsolete with this new posting.