Policy Clarifications Cash Assistance - All PCA14544150

Submitted: 12/19/08 Agency: CAOs Citations:

Subject:Special SSI Recipient Income/Cash Eligibility for other Household Members

PCA12856150 regarding Exclusion of SSI/Payable vs. Eligible.

This clarification describes the "special SSI recipient status" where SDX Medicaid Eligibility code is a "C" and he is "special SSI recipient status" - the individual is employed. It states we would count the earned income of the "special SSI recipient" to the cash budget. I've been working for the dept. a long time and I have an old policy clarification 001-155 (Tr # 237) which states we don't count the income of a special SSI recipient to the AFDC grant (dated 01/08/1991). We've always disregarded the income of a special SSI recipient status in determining the cash grant.

Which is correct? I found a PC for medical assistance which says we disregard earned income of a "special SSI recipient" for medical assistance.

Response By: Barbara Hummel Date:12/23/08

For cash purposes, PCA12856150 is correct and remains in effect. The exclusion at CAH 150.5 #32 does not apply <u>unless</u> the individual is a recipient of SSI payments, i.e., is in active pay status. The intent of PCA12856150 is specific to an SSI recipient, not special SSI recipient status. **SF No. Cash 001-155, Tr. No. 237 (an older clarification available in paper copy only) will become obsolete with this clarification.**

For MA purposes, PMA13202387 is correct and remains in effect. The income will be excluded of individuals at MEH 387.63 (Disabled – Employment) referenced as "Special SSI Recipient Status".

Please note: Section 1619 of the Social Security Act comprises two basic provisions for SSI recipients qualifying for continued Medical Assistance coverage.

- (1) Section 1619(a) extends special SSI cash to individuals whose earnings preclude eligibility for regular SSI cash benefits. Individuals in 1619(a) may still receive an SSI cash benefit in addition to the individual's earned income.
- (2) Section 1619(b) extends Medical Assistance coverage to individuals whose earnings, although high enough to preclude eligibility for regular SSI cash benefits or special SSI cash benefits under section(a), may not be enough for medical care.