

# Policy Clarifications – Other PO-17055-730

**Submitted: 03/2014**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Authorizing Medical Assistance (MA) for Refugees.**

**Question:** We are trying to process an MA application for a family of refugees and the system is authorizing MG00 for the child and TU00 for the parents? Shouldn't the parents be eligible for Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) and be authorized for PC02 instead?

---

**Response By: Division of Health Services**

**Date: 03/2014**

No. The system is authorizing the parents for TU00 correctly. Refugees qualify for RMA only if they are determined ineligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medical Assistance (MA), TANF-related MA, or SSI-related MA. TANF and SSI-related MA include Non-Money Payment (NMP) MA and Medically Needy Only (MNO) MA.

Since Pennsylvania provides MA to medically needy individuals, CAOs must determine a refugee's eligibility for TANF or SSI-related MNO before determining eligibility for RMA.

The Supplemental Handbook Chapter 730 will be updated to make it clearer.