## **Policy Clarification**

Cash Assistance – All – PCA-21263-150

Medicaid - All - PMA-21263-350

**SNAP - All - PFS-21263-550** 

**LIHEAP - AII - PLA-21263-650** 

Submitted: January 27, 2023 Agency: CAOs

**Subject:** Unemployment Compensation (UC) Reduction for 2023

Question: Is the 2.4 percent reduction of Unemployment Compensation still in

effect?

Response By: Bureau of Policy Date: March 13, 2023

No, the 2.4 percent reduction is no longer in effect. Beginning with the UC payable week ending January 7, 2023, the reduction percentage has changed to 3.2 percent.

The County Assistance Offices will use the newly reduced amount in eligibility determinations and benefits computations.

For further clarification on using the Data Exchange 2 UC screens to determine countable UC income, we contacted the Division of Automation Planning and Support. They advise that the amounts can be accessed through the UC Individual History and UC Individual Detail screens. The amounts are displayed as follows:

From the Individual Detail/Check History Screen:

- WEEKLY/WBR field displays gross benefits before the 3.2 percent reduction.
- NET BENEFIT/Amount Paid field displays net benefits AFTER the 3.2 percent reduction, deductions and/or garnishments.

 Review the Benefit Calculation details with adjustment codes by selecting the Additional information button next to the NET BENEFIT/Amount Paid field. This will display the Benefit Calculation details box. Selecting the chevron button next to the adjustments/deductions field will display deductions with codes and descriptions. The dollar amount of the 3.2 percent reduction is listed but does not have a code or description.

**NOTE:** This 3.2 percent reduction is applied to the regular weekly benefit amount and the dependent's allowance only. The reduction does not apply to federal compensation programs like Emergency UC, Extended Benefits, Trade Readjustment Allowances, and Disaster Unemployment Assistance.

Also, the total balance of the UC claim will continue to be reduced by the amount of the UC check before the reduction; meaning that the UC claim will not be extended because of the reduced weekly benefit.

See the Department of Labor & Industry's <u>Potential Reductions</u> page for more information.

The following Policy Clarifications are obsolete with the posting of this clarification: PCA 18808-150, PMA 18808-350, PFS 18808-550, and PLA 18808-650.