**Policy Clarifications**

**Cash Assistance – PCA-20081-150**

**Medical Assistance – PMA-20081-350**

**Food Stamps – PFS-20081-550**

**Submitted: 8/19/2020 Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Verifying Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Unemployment Compensation (UC) Income received due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency**

**Question: Since the PUA is not visible on Exchange 2, how can we verify the PUA UC income?**

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| **Response by: Policy Clarification Unit/DFA/DHS/DFPPM Date:** |  |

PUA is countable unearned income for Cash, Medical Assistance (MA) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) programs. See OPS Memo 20-05-02 for guidance on the PUA income. Because the PUA is not provided through Exchange 2, verification of the PUA income should follow these guidelines.

A UC claimant can log into the UC website and view their Payment Summary. The claimant can then print this information or take a screen shot and submit as verification of the UC benefits that they are receiving. The Payment Summary shows how much UC the claimant is eligible for each week but doesn’t show the actual payment amount for the individual’s initial lump sum when the UC began; it only shows the weekly amount.

If the individual submits a copy of their Payment Summary, the CAO should ask for the date when the individual first started receiving the UC and how much the initial payment was. The CAO may use the individual’s statement along with the Payment Summary copy to properly update the individual’s income in the electronic Client Information System.

**NOTE:** For SNAP, delayed UC benefits are a lump sum resource, not income.

**NOTE:** See OPS 20-03-03 for more guidance on MA processing during the emergency.