NONFINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY FACTORS MARITAL & PARENT/CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

D. INDIVIDUAL IS A CHILD

A child is defined as someone who is neither married nor head of a household and:

- Under age 18; or
- Under age 21 and a student regularly attending school or college or training that is designed to prepare him/her for a paying job.

An individual who does not meet the definition of a child (e.g., age 17 but married) may meet the definition of an eligible individual.

1. Definition of Parent

A natural or adoptive parent or stepparent who lives in the same household as the child.

- The stepparent must be the present husband or wife (including a holding out relationship) of the natural or adoptive parent living in the same household as the child.
- A person is not the stepparent if the natural or adoptive parent has died, been divorced from the stepparent, or had the marriage annulled.
- 2. Child Status Ends

Do not consider an individual a child effective with the month the child becomes age 18 or age 21 if a student <u>or</u> the month he/she last meets the definition of a child.

3. Evidence of Child Status

Obtain proof of age or marital status, if married, for the child. Use the birth or baptismal record to verify proof of age and the parent/child relationship.