

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

200.07.10 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Unemployment insurance benefits, also known as unemployment compensation, means payments received under a state or federal unemployment law and additional amounts paid by unions or employers as unemployment benefits.

Unemployment compensation is unearned income. A computer match with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) is completed at application and redetermination to check for receipt of these benefits.

200.07.11 WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Workers' Compensation (WC) payments are awarded to an injured employee and his/her survivor(s) under federal and state WC laws, such as the Longshoremen and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act. The payments may be made by a federal or state agency, an insurance company or an employer.

- The WC payment less any expenses incurred in obtaining the payment is counted as unearned income.
- Any portion of a WC payment or award that the authorizing or paying agency designates for medical, legal or other expenses attributable to obtaining the WC award is not income. The expenses may be past, current or future. The WC payments designated for such expenses may be received in a lump sum or as a continuing payment.
- If an individual alleges having incurred expenses that exceed the amounts designated for expenses, or to which no amount was designated, the normal rules pertaining to the expenses of obtaining income apply.
- Requests for verification of WC payments are sent to state office for an on-line inquiry. DOM-333 may be used to provide pertinent information for the inquiry. If information from the on-line query conflicts with the client's statement or information provided by the client, contact with the paying agency may be necessary.

200.07.12 TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

TANF provides a monetary grant to families under a program that uses income as a factor of eligibility and is partially funded by federal block grants.

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TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

TANF payments are considered income based on need (IBON). If a Medicaid client is included in the TANF family unit, the client's share of the TANF grant is counted dollar for dollar as income and the \$50/\$20 general income exclusion does not apply.

In Mississippi, the maximum payment is made based on an incremental method (grant increases or decreases with changes in family size) as follows:

- \$110 for the first person
- \$36 for the second person
- \$24 for each additional person

Determining the Client's Share of the TANF Grant

To determine the client's share of the grant, figure the difference between the grant actually paid and the payment without the client. If the maximum TANF grant is not being received, contact with DHS may be needed to determine the client's share. If the grant amount without including the client is the same or more, the client's share is zero.

Other TANF Payments

TANF incentive payments, additional payments made as a reward for compliance with program requirements, are also IBON and the \$50/\$20 general income exclusion does not apply. Participation allowances for the TANF program are reimbursements.

There is no federal bar to simultaneous SSI/TANF eligibility; however, Mississippi, like most states, does not include SSI recipients' needs or income in the TANF grant.

200.07.13 BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) GENERAL ASSISTANCE(GA)

Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance (BIA GA) is a federally funded program administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through its local agency or a tribe. The program makes periodic payments to needy Indians. The administering agency determines need according to the standards used by State welfare agencies for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). BIA GA payments are federally funded income based on need and, therefore, count as income on a dollar-for-dollar basis regardless of whether they are paid in cash or in kind. The \$50/\$20 per month general income exclusion does not apply.

Effective Month: June 2012