

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

200.07.43 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

The Workforce Investment Act replaced the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA.) The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), which became effective July 1, 2000, establishes a national workforce preparation and employment system to meet the needs of businesses, job seekers and those who want to further their careers. Individuals have easy access to information and services through the One-Stop Career Center system.

Determine the type, amount and frequency of the income the individual receives and evaluate the income, e.g., wages, stipends, bonuses, incentive payments, etc., under the general rule pertaining to income and income exclusions. Disregard any payments that represent supportive services (child care, transportation, medical care, meals, etc.) which are social services, not income.

200.07.44 JOB CORPS

The Job Corps is a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program. A Job Corps participant who is a student under age 22 qualifies for the student earned income exclusion.

Treatment of Income

The **living allowance** (also called student pay) is the regular, recurring payment to Job Corps participants. It is paid bi-weekly and may include bonuses and/or incentive payments. FICA is withheld from the entire amount. The living allowance is wages.

The **readjustment allowance** is paid at the completion or termination of the program based on length of participation. It may include bonuses and/or incentive payments. FICA is withheld from the entire amount. The readjustment allowance, including any amount deducted to pay the participant's share of a dependent's allowance, is wages.

Any **bonus and incentive payments** are also wages.

A **bi-weekly dependent's allowance** may be paid directly to a participant's dependent. The Federal Government pays for half. The other half is subsequently deducted from the participant's readjustment allowance. This allowance is counted as unearned income to the dependent.

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JOB CORPS (Continued)

The **clothing allowance** is furnished only as a voucher redeemable at a designated clothing store. The clothing allowance (voucher) is not income. The transportation allowance is furnished only as tickets (usually bus tickets) that cannot be converted to cash. This allowance is not income.

Supportive services are services such as childcare, transportation, medical care, meals, and other reasonable expenses provided in-kind. Those supportive services (such as medical services, transportation to and from medical treatment, counseling, job placement services) provided in-kind which are medical or social services are not income.

Deeming

- The rules regarding temporary absence for deeming purposes apply to Job Corps participants who reside in a Job Corps Center or who are away at school.
- If the participant is a deemor and his dependent is eligible for Medicaid, only one-half of the dependent's allowance is unearned income to the dependent.