



Beverly J. Walker, Commissioner

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OFFICE OF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE MANUAL TRANSMITTAL 2005-14
Volume 3 Food Stamps
Manual Transmittal 14

TO: County Department of Family and Children Services
OFI Regional Managers
OFI Program Specialists
OFI State Operations Staff

FROM: Steve Love, Acting Division Director

RE: Updates to the Food Stamp Program Manual

PURPOSE

This manual transmittal contains updates and clarifications received since the last manual transmittal and are effective February 1, 2005.

DISCUSSION

This manual transmittal contains the following updates:

Section 3320, Citizenship/Alienage - The category of noncitizens eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003 (TVPRA), is expanded to include the minor children, spouses and in some cases the parents and siblings of victims of severe trafficking. Eligibility was originally limited to the victims themselves.

The mailing address for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is added to this section.

Added the amount of earnings needed to earn a credited quarter for 2005. The amount is \$920.00.

Section 3350 Work Registration – The section is updated to change the “pregnancy” exemption to “high-risk pregnancy” as the work registration exemption. Also implemented the use of an existing SUCCESS Exemption Reason Code “AD” to exempt IPV sanctions and SSN disqualified individuals.

Section 3355, Able Bodies Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) - “Not pregnant” added to the definition of an ABAWD.

Under Chart 3355.2 ABAWD Eligibility Criteria, Non Compliance and Over-Issuances Month removed the phrase “for reasons other than the ABAWD provision” from the policy regarding counting a non-compliance month when there is an over-issuance. The reasons for the over issuances no longer have to

be for reasons other than the ABAWD provision.

Section 3385, Failure to Perform a Required Action – Changed policy to concur with TANF sanction policy that was effective January 1, 2005. The maximum period to apply a penalty for failure to comply with a required action in a food stamp case is changed from 6 months to 12 months. Additional clarifications of when a failure to perform a required action is not applied to an individual who is ineligible for TANF are added to this section.

Section 3405, Resources - Removed references to vehicles as countable resources. Changed Chart 3405.1, Vehicles, to exempt vehicles as resources.

Section 3410, Vehicles - Removed entire section. Vehicles are no longer countable resources.

Section 3420, Income – Added income excluded by federal law. Disaster Relief Employment Funded Under National Emergency Grants, and the Disaster Unemployment Assistance, are excluded income types.

Section 3430, Military Pay – Combat Pay received due to deployment to a designated combat zone is excluded income.

Section 3615, Deductions - Separated the section into the following sections: 3611-Deduction Overview, 3612-Earned Income Deduction, 3613-Standard Deduction, 3614-Excess Medical Deduction, 3615-Dependent Care Deduction, 3616-Child Support Deduction, 3617-Excess Shelter Deduction.

Section 3810, Issuance - Added policy to show exceptions when restorations are offset to pay active unpaid claims.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MANUAL MAINTENANCE

- Remove the Food Stamp Program, Table of Contents, and replace with the same.
- Remove Section 3320, Citizenship/Alienage, and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3350, Work Registration and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3355, Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD), and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3385, Failure to Perform A Required Action and replace with same.
- Remove Table of Contents for Section 3400, Financial Eligibility Criteria, and replace with the same.
- Remove Section 3405, Resources and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3410, Vehicles.
- Remove Section 3420, Income, and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3430, Military Pay, and replace with same.

- Remove the Table of Contents for Section 3600, and replace with same.
- Remove Section 3615, Deductions, and replace with Sections 3611 thru 3617.
- Remove Section 3810, Issuance, and replace with same.
- Place Manual Transmittal 2005-14 Cover Letter following Manual Transmittal 2004-13 Cover Letter in Appendix D.

Make an update notation on the Record of Receipt of Manual Transmittals for Volume III.

ON-LINE MANUAL (ODIS) UPDATE

The material contained in this manual transmittal will be updated in the ODIS System effective February 1, 2005.