

10.2 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter contains the income policies and procedures used to determine eligibility and the amount of the benefit for Food Stamps, TANF, WV WORKS and most Medicaid coverage groups. The income information for some benefits is found in the chapters listed below:

BENEFIT	CHAPTER
Nursing facility services	Chapter 17
HCB Waiver	Chapter 17
MR/DD Waiver	Chapter 17
ICF/MR services	Chapter 17
Aliens and Refugees	Chapter 18
Emergency Assistance	Chapter 19
LIEAP	Chapter 19
Tele-Assistance	Chapter 19
20% Utility Assistance	Chapter 19
TRIP	Chapter 19
Link-Up America	Chapter 19
Neighbor-to-Neighbor	Chapter 19
NEMT	Chapter 19
Burial	Chapter 19

The following Medicaid coverage groups require no income eligibility determination by the Worker:

DAC	Pass-Throughs
DA & A	Essential Spouses of SSI Recipients
SSI Recipients	Disabled Widows and Widowers
Adoption Assistance	Foster Care
Continuously Eligible Newborn Children (CEN)	

For more information about these coverage groups, refer to Chapter 16.

This Chapter includes a section which charts sources of income, and shows whether or not they are counted for each program. In addition, if an income source is counted, the chart identifies it as earned, self-employment or unearned income. For each program which requires an income determination by the Worker, there are sections explaining budgeting methods, deductions and disregards, incentives, how to determine countable income, and special situations. Appropriate income limits are found in Appendix A.

Income is defined as any and all monies received from any source.

The determination of countable income is necessary, because it is, generally, the countable income which is tested against maximum income limits.

The first step in determining countable income is to determine all the incoming monies to the benefit group and those that may be associated with the benefit group (stepparents, sanctioned individuals, etc.).

Once all incoming monies have been identified, they are compared to the income exclusions listed in this Chapter, and, if applicable, the income from any excluded source is subtracted from the incoming monies.

After all income exclusions have been applied, some of the remaining incoming monies may qualify for certain disregards and deductions as outlined in the sections for each specific program.