

3. Identification Of Refugees In RAPIDS

Individuals who are receiving assistance as refugees must be coded appropriately in RAPIDS.

It is extremely important that all refugees be coded appropriately.

4. Registering For Employment Services

It is a condition of eligibility that all employable refugees who apply for the AFDC or AFCD-Related Medicaid or the Refugee Assistance Program must register for work. All refugees applying for AFDC or AFCD-Related Medicaid must register with the Bureau for Employment Programs (BEP) unless they are exempt from registration according to Item 6 below,

5. Procedures For Registering For Employment

Follow the same procedures that are found in Item E. of this section,

6. Work Registration Exemptions

The following individuals are exempt from registering for Employment Services:

- A child under 16 years of age.
- A child 16-18 and in school full time.
- A person who is ill, disabled or over 65 years of age. The determination of illness or disability must be verified by a doctor's statement.
- A person whose presence in the home is required because of illness or disability of another member of the household. This must be verified by a doctor's statement.
- A caretaker who is caring for a child under the age of 3. Only one parent or other relative in a case may be exempt.
- Any member of the AG who is enrolled and participating in a training program. The training program must be part of an employability plan which has been approved by DFA and/or Migration and Refugee Services and intended to have a definite short-term (less than one year) employment objective.
- Spouse of a registrant

NOTE: Inability to communicate in English does not exempt the client from registering.

The following changes apply to the work registration exemption for the JOBS Program:

- The age of the child in number 5 above is changed to age 3.
- A caretaker under the age of 20 without a high school diploma is mandatory regardless of the age of the child.
- The spouse of a registrant is not exempt.

7. Refusal To Register For Employment Service

It is a condition of eligibility for AFDC or AFCD-Related Medicaid that the refugee register with BEP unless exempt. If a refugee who is a mandatory registrant refuses to register, the refugee is to be sanctioned.

8. Income

At the time of application and each re-determination, the sponsor should be contacted to determine the amount of income, if any, he voluntarily contributes to the refugee. Also the name and address of the sponsor should be recorded in the case record.

If the refugee has excessive income for AFDC or AFCD-Related Medicaid or RCA, the Worker will evaluate the client for the Medicaid or RMA programs.

9. Assets

Assets will be treated in the same manner as any other applicant. If an asset is located in the refugee's homeland and is not available to the refugee, then these assets would not be treated as assets available to meet the needs of the client.

D. ELIGIBILITY FOR REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE AND REFUGEE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

The state must determine Medicaid and SCHIP eligibility under its Medicaid and SCHIP state plans for each individual member of a family unit that applies for medical assistance.

A state that provides Medicaid to medically needy individuals in the state under its state plan must determine a refugee applicant's eligibility for Medicaid as medically needy.

A state must provide medical assistance under the Medicaid and SCHIP programs to all refugees eligible under its state plan

If the appropriate state agency determines that the refugee applicant is not eligible for Medicaid or SCHIP under its state plans, the state must determine the applicant's eligibility for refugee medical assistance.

A determination is made for RCA or RMA following the same guidelines as for AFDC or AFCD-Related Medicaid. The difference in the Refugee Program is that certain eligibility requirements are waived.

1. Eligibility Requirements

The following eligibility requirements are waived for individuals:

a. Living with a Specified Relative

A child does not have to be living with a specified relative in order to be eligible for this program.

b. Having an Eligible Child in the Home

Individuals are not required to have an eligible child in the home in order to be eligible for an assistance payment.

EXAMPLE: If a husband and wife do not have any eligible children in the home, and they meet all other eligibility requirements, the case can be approved for this program.

c. Deprivation of Parental Support and Care

Families do not have to meet the eligibility requirement of being deprived of support in order to be eligible for this program.

EXAMPLE: A household could consist of a husband and wife and three children. Even if the husband is employed full-time working over 100 hours per month, the household will still be eligible for assistance through the program as long as they meet all other eligibility factors.

d. Assignment of Support Rights

The eligibility requirement of assignment of support rights is waived for this program. If the applicant has child support as income, it will be treated as a resource against the assistance check.

The \$30 and 1/3 disregard is not allowed.

2. Full-Time Students In Institutions Of Higher Education

Refugee Cash Assistance shall not be made available to refugees who are full time students in institutions of higher education, unless it is appropriate English-language and job related training, approved under an individual employability plan and has a definite short term of less than 1 year employment objective.

3. Income

Income will be treated as it is treated for any other applicant, but, only the income available to the refugee will be treated as income. Any income

producing property which is in his homeland will not be considered available to meet the needs of the refugee.

The \$30 and 1/3 disregard for income is not allowed in refugee or entrant programs.

Whenever a refugee applies for cash or medical assistance, the Worker must notify the Voluntary Placement Agency (VOLAG), or the Office of Migration and Refugee Services (OMRS) which provided for the initial resettlement of the refugee, of the fact that the refugee has applied.

The Worker needs to determine the following:

- Assistance the VOLAG is providing to the refugee
- Whether the refugee has refused an offer of employment or has voluntarily quit a job without good cause.
- Name and address of the VOLAG, may be obtained from the refugee.

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Charleston, West Virginia 25301
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This notification can be completed by telephone but a recording must be included in case comments for audit purposes. The VOLAG should also be notified of any adverse action taken on a case.

NOTE: If for some reason the refugee does not know the name of the VOLAG, contact the State Refugee Coordinator in the Division of Family Assistance.

If the refugee has excessive income for WV WORKS or RCA, the Worker will evaluate the client for the Medicaid or RMA programs.

4. Assets

Assets will be treated in the same manner as any other applicant with one exception. If an asset is located in the refugee's homeland and is not available to the refugee, then these assets would not be treated as assets available to meet the needs of the client.