10.6 GENERAL INCOME INFORMATION FOR MEDICAID COVERAGE GROUPS

The following sections contain income information about most Medicaid coverage groups. HCB TBI and I/DD Waiver cases are included in Chapter 17, along with information about individuals receiving nursing home and ICF/MR services. Also not found in the following sections, is income information about children who receive Adoption Assistance or Foster Care payments. These cases are the responsibility of the Office of Social Services.

The coverage groups included in this Chapter are listed in the same order they appear in Chapter 16, with the following exceptions:

- Income information about all Qualified Children, regardless of birthdate, is found in Section 10.10.
- Income information about all Poverty-Level Children, regardless of age, is found in Section 10.12.
- Income information about the Continuously Eligible Newborns (CEN) is found in Section 10.13.
- Income information about QMB, SLIMB, QI-1 and QI-2 was combined in Section 10.16.

A. UNCOMPENSATED TRANSFERS OF INCOME

When any Medicaid recipient is receiving nursing home or ICF/MR services or is a member of an HCB, TBI or I/DD Waiver AG (See Chapter 17), a penalty may be applied for an uncompensated transfer of resources, including income or a stream of income. The policy and procedures related to this process are explained in Chapter 17.

The policy applies only to uncompensated transfers which occurred on or after 8/11/93.

B. BUDGETING METHOD

NOTE: Treatment of the income of persons employed under an annual contract and of migrant farm workers with seasonal employment requires special instructions. Consult the Table of Contents for Special Situations for each Medicaid coverage group, for those employed under an annual contract. The SNAP requirements of migrant farm workers have no bearing on any Medicaid coverage group.

Unless information to the contrary is shown in the remaining sections of this Chapter, the following method is used to determine income for the certification period or period of consideration (POC).

Eligibility is determined on a monthly basis. Therefore, it is necessary to determine a monthly amount of income to count for the eligibility period. The following information applies to earned and unearned income.

For all cases, the Worker must determine the amount of income that can be reasonably anticipated for the AG. For all cases, income is projected*; past income is used only when it reflects the income the client reasonably expects to receive.

***NOTE:** There are two exceptions to this. They are found below in EXCEPTION: Use of Actual Income.

1. Methods For Reasonably Anticipating Income

   There are 2 methods for reasonably anticipating the income the client expects to receive. One method uses past income and the other method uses future income. Both methods may be used for the same AG for the same certification period because the method used varies with the circumstances of each source of income. The situations which prompt usage of one or the other method are listed below. More details are contained in the follow items.

   Use past income only when both of the following conditions exist for a source of income:

   - Income from the source is expected to continue into the certification period or POC; and

   - The amount of income from the same source is expected to be more or less the same.

   NOTE: For these purposes, the same source of earned income means income from the same employer, not just the continued receipt of earned income.

   Use future income when either of the following conditions exist for a source of income:

   - Income from a new source is expected to be received in the certification period or POC; or

   - The rate of pay or the number of hours worked for an old source is expected to change during the certification period or POC.

Step 2: Determine if the income from the previous 30 days is reasonably expected to continue into the new certification period or POC.

If it is not expected to continue, the income from this source is no longer considered for use in the new certification period or POC.

If it is expected to continue, determine if the amount is reasonably expected to be more or less the same. If so, the income source is used for the new certification period or POC and treated according to How To Use Past and Future Income below. If it is not expected to continue at more or less the same amount, the income source is used for the new certification period or POC and treated according to Consideration of Future Income below.

Step 3: Record the results of Step 2, including the amount of income, why the source is or is not being considered for the new certification period or POC, the client's statement about continuation of the income from this source, the time period used, and, if more than the previous 30 days, the reason additional income was considered.

Once the Worker has determined all of the old sources of income to consider and the time period for which they are considered, he must then determine if any source should be considered for future income.

Step 3: Determine when the client can be reasonably expected to receive income from the new source or the changed amount from the old source.

If the date of receipt cannot be reasonably anticipated, income from this source is not considered. The Worker must record the client's statement that he expects income from a new source or a change in the amount from an old source. In addition, the Worker must record why the date of receipt cannot be anticipated and information about attempts made to determine the date of receipt.

Step 4: When the amount and date of receipt can be anticipated, the Worker treats the income according to How To Use Past and Future Income below.

The Worker must record how the amount and date of receipt were projected.

4. How To Use Past And Future Income

Once the Worker determines all of the income sources which are to be considered for use, the amount of monthly income is determined as follows, based on the frequency of receipt and whether the amount is stable or fluctuates.

NOTE: Some past income will never be used. When income from an old source is not expected to continue into the new certification period or POC, it will never be used. In addition, some future income will never be used. When income from a new source is received but could not have been anticipated, that income is not used.

When the ***Frequency*** of Receipt is:	When the ***Amount*** is ***Stable***	When the ***Amount Fluctuates******
Monthly	Use ***Actual*** Monthly Amount	Use ***Average**** Monthly Amount
More Often than Monthly	***Convert*** Amount/period to Monthly Amount	Find ***Average****** Amount/period and ***Convert*** to Monthly Amount
Less Often than Monthly	***Prorate*** to Find Amount for Intended Period. If Not Monthly, ***Convert or Prorate*** Amount	***Prorate*** to Find Amount for Intended Period. If Not Monthly, ***Convert or Prorate*** Amount