

23.10 INCOME

A. TRANSFERS OF INCOME

The transfer of resources policy does not apply to M-WIN.

B. INCOME SOURCES

The income sources in Section 10.3 are treated the same as for SSI-Related Medicaid.

C. BUDGETING METHOD

The method used to anticipate monthly countable income is the same as the one use for AFDC Medicaid in Section 10.7.

D. INCOME DISREGARDS AND DEDUCTIONS

NOTE: RSDI COLAs are disregarded in determining income eligibility until the new FPL limits become effective.

The following disregards and deductions are applied, if applicable.

1. Earned Income

NOTE: These disregards and deductions apply only to earned income. Any unused portion of the disregards or deductions is not applied to unearned income.

- SSI \$20 Disregard: The remainder of the \$20 income disregard. See Unearned Income below.
- SSI Earned Income Disregard: \$65 and ½ of the remainder are subtracted from earned income and from gross profit from self-employment earnings. See item E below.
- Impairment-Related Work Expenses: Expenses for items or services which are directly related to enabling a person with a disability to work and which are necessarily incurred by the individual due to a physical or mental impairment. The individual must be:
 - Disabled, but not blind; and
 - Under age 65

Medicaid Work Incentive

In addition, the severity of the impairment must require the individual to purchase or rent items and services in order to work and the expense must be reasonable and not reimbursable from another source, such as, but not limited to, Medicare or private insurance. The payment must be made with income received for a month in which the person both worked and received the services or used the item, or the payment may be made before the earned income is received when the person is working.

Examples of impairment-related work expenses include, but are not limited to, attendant care services both at home and at work, drugs and medical supplies and devices, federal, state and local income taxes and FICA, service animals, fees such as union dues, mandatory contributions such as pensions, meals consumed during work hours, work-related equipment or services, physical therapy, prosthesis, structural modifications to the person's home, transportation to and from work and vehicle modification.

- SSI Work-Related Expenses (Blind Persons Only): A deduction for impairment-related expenses necessary for employment is allowed, such as a guide dog, cane training, purchase of special equipment needed to perform or advance on the job, etc.
- Earnings Diverted to a PASS: Any earnings diverted to a PASS are deducted from income.
- SSI Student Child Earned Income Disregard: \$1,730 per month, but no more than \$6,960 in a calendar year, is disregarded when the child meets the following criteria:
 - Is under age 22, unmarried and not head of a household; and
 - Takes one or more courses of study and attends classes as follows:
 - In a college or university at least 8 hours a week; or
 - In grades 7-12 at least 12 hours a week; or
 - In a course of training to prepare for a paying job for at least 15 hours a week, if shop practice is involved, or 12 hours a week, if shop practice is not involved; or

F. SPECIAL SITUATIONS**1. Self-Employment**

Gross profit is determined the same way it is for AFDC Medicaid. See Section 10.7. The gross profit may be earned or unearned income. See Section 10.7.

2. Annual Contract Employment

Annual contract employment is treated the same way it is for AFDC Medicaid. See Section 10.7.

3. Educational Income

Educational Income is counted the same way it is for AFDC Medicaid. See Section 10.7.

4. Deeming

No income is deemed.

5. Strikers

The presence of a striker has no effect on M-WIN.

6. Irregular Income

Regardless of the source, irregular income is excluded because it cannot be anticipated.

7. Lump Sum Payments

Lump sum payments are treated as unearned income in the month received.

8. Withheld Income**a. From Earned Income**

Earnings withheld to repay an advance payment are disregarded if they were counted in the month received. If not counted in the month received, the withheld earnings are income. No other earned income is excluded just because it is withheld by the employer.