

10.8 PARENTS/CARETAKER RELATIVES; PREGNANT WOMEN; CHILDREN UNDER AGE 19; and ADULT GROUP (Categorically Needy, Mandatory)**MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME (MAGI) METHODOLOGY**

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, enacted March 23, 2010, amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, enacted March 30, 2010, are together referred to as the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act required a new methodology for determining how income is counted and how household composition and size are determined when establishing financial eligibility for all three Insurance Affordability Programs (IAP) - Medicaid, CHIP and Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTC) through the Exchange.

MAGI methodologies apply to individuals whose eligibility for Medicaid is determined for coverage effective on or after January 1, 2014.

NOTE: West Virginia received an 1115 waiver to begin using MAGI methodologies to determine eligibility for populations subject to MAGI beginning with applications submitted on or after October 1, 2013, and for any retroactive coverage months requested on applications submitted on or after October 1, 2013.

MAGI methodologies will not be applied to current beneficiaries who were determined eligible for Medicaid on or before December 31, 2013 until March 31, 2014 or the next regularly-scheduled renewal or a change is reported of eligibility for such individual, whichever is later.

NOTE: West Virginia received a waiver under section 1902e(14)(A) of the Social Security Act to allow the state to extend the renewal date 6 months for current Medicaid beneficiaries whose renewal is scheduled to occur between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014.

MAGI Methodology is used to determine financial eligibility for the following Medicaid eligibility groups:

- Parents and Other Caretaker Relatives;
- Pregnant Women;
- Children Under 19;
- Adult Group;

NOTE: MAGI methodologies are also used to calculate eligibility for CHIP.

A. BUDGETING METHOD

The budgeting method established in Section 10.6 is used to determine income for the certification period.

B. DETERMINE THE MAGI HOUSEHOLD SIZE FOR EACH APPLICANT

To determine the MAGI household size the following step-by-step methodology is used for each applicant. For purposes of applying the MAGI methodology child means natural, adopted or step child; parent means natural, adopted or step parent; sibling means natural, adopted, half or step sibling.

This methodology must be applied to each applicant in the MAGI household separately:

STEP 1: IS THE APPLICANT A TAX FILER?

IF NO: Move to **STEP 2**.

IF YES: The applicant's MAGI household includes themselves, each individual they expect to claim as a tax dependent, and their spouse if residing with the tax filer. This is known as the tax filer rule.

STEP 2: IS THE APPLICANT CLAIMED AS A TAX DEPENDENT ON SOMEONE ELSE'S TAXES?

IF NO: Move to **STEP 3**.

IF YES: Test against the three exceptions below. If the answer to any of these exceptions is 'yes', then the applicant's MAGI household size must be calculated using **STEP 3**.

1. The applicant is claimed as a dependent by someone other than a spouse or parent.
2. The applicant is a child under 19 who lives with both parents, but both parents do not expect to file taxes jointly.
3. The applicant is a child under 19 who is claimed as a tax dependent to a non-custodial parent(s).

NOTE: For the purpose of this exception, the custodial parent is established based on physical custody specified in a court order or binding separation, divorce, or custody agreement; or, if there is no

such order or agreement, or in the event of a shared custody agreement, based on with whom the child spends more nights. If such an agreement is unavailable, the custodial parent is the one with whom the applicant spends most nights.

If none of these exceptions are true then the applicant's Medicaid household consists of the applicant, the tax filer claiming them as a dependent, any other dependents in the tax filer's household, and the applicant's spouse if they reside together. This is known as the tax dependent rule.

STEP 3: IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT A TAX FILER, IS NOT CLAIMED AS A TAX DEPENDENT OR MEETS ONE OF THE EXCEPTIONS IN STEP 2:

The Medicaid household consists of the applicant and the following individuals as long as they reside with the applicant:

1. The applicant's spouse;
2. The applicant's children under age 19;
3. For applicants under 19, their parents, and their siblings who are also under 19.

This is known as the non-filer rule.

STEP 4: CASES WHERE APPLICANT CANNOT REASONABLY ESTABLISH TAX DEPENDENT STATUS

If an applicant/tax filer cannot reasonably establish that reported household members will be tax dependents of the applicant for the tax year in which Medicaid is sought, the inclusion of such individual in the MAGI household of the tax filer is determined using rules in **STEP 3**.

EXAMPLE: An applicant indicates she is currently separated and seeking a divorce. The living arrangements of the children are to be determined by family court. She is uncertain if the children will remain in her household for the tax year, or whether she will be able to claim them as tax dependents on next year's tax return. Because the tax dependency status of the children cannot be reasonably established on the date of application, inclusion of the children in the applicant's MAGI household is determined using STEP 3.

NOTE: In the case of married couples who reside together, each spouse must be included in the MAGI household of the other spouse, regardless of whether they expect to file a joint tax return or whether one spouse expects to be claimed as a tax dependent by the other spouse.

NOTE: The MAGI household of the pregnant woman also includes her unborn child(ren).

EXAMPLES: (Same as Chapter 9)

1. **John and Samantha are married with 2 children, James, 7 and Ruth, 5. John and Samantha file taxes jointly and claim both children as dependents.**

John is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 above his household includes himself, each of his tax dependents and his spouse – John, Samantha, James and Ruth = 4.

Samantha is a joint tax filer. Using STEP 1 above, her household includes herself, each of her tax dependents and her spouse – John, Samantha, James and Ruth = 4.

James is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 he does not meet any of the exceptions. James' household includes himself, the tax filers and other tax dependents – John, Samantha, James and Ruth = 4.

Ruth is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2, she does not meet any of the exceptions; therefore, her household includes herself, her tax filers and other tax dependents in the household – John, Samantha, James and Ruth = 4.

2. **Bob and Mary are not married but have one child together, Julie, 9 months. Bob is a tax filer and claims Julie as his dependent. Mary is also a tax filer.**

Bob is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 above his household includes himself and his tax dependent Julie – Bob and Julie = 2.

Mary is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself only – Mary = 1.

Julie is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 Julie meets exception number 2; therefore her household is determined using STEP 3. Julie's household includes herself and her parents – Julie, Bob and Mary = 3.

- 3. Frank is a tax filer and claims his 10-year-old son Pete as a tax dependent. Frank is the non-custodial parent as Pete lives with his mother.**

Frank is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 his household includes himself and his tax dependent Pete – Frank and Pete = 2.

Pete is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 he meets exception 3; therefore his household is determined using STEP 3. Pete's household includes himself and the parent and any siblings with whom he resides. Pete's Medicaid household cannot be determined based on an application submitted by Frank. The parent with whom Pete resides must submit an application on his behalf.

- 4. Susan is a tax filer who lives with her 10 year old son Pete. Pete is claimed as a tax dependent by Frank from the example above, his non-custodial parent.**

Susan is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself only – Susan = 1.

Pete is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 he meets exception 3; therefore, his household includes himself and his custodial parent Susan – Pete and Susan = 2.

- 5. Tammy is a tax filer and claims her daughter Rose, 16 and her mother Edith, 76 as tax dependents. Neither Rose nor Edith is a tax filer.**

Tammy is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself and her tax dependents Rose and Edith – Tammy, Rose and Edith = 3.

Rose is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 she does not meet any exceptions; therefore her household includes herself, Tammy, the tax filer claiming her, and Edith the other tax dependent – Rose, Tammy and Edith = 3.

Edith is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 she meets exception 1; therefore her household is determined using STEP 3. Edith's household includes herself = 1.

- 6. Mary is a tax filer and claims her daughter Corynn, 20 and Corynn's daughter Nicole, 1 as tax dependents. Neither Corynn nor Nicole is a tax filer.**

Mary is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself and her tax dependents Corynn and Nicole – Mary and Corynn and Nicole = 3.

Corynn is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 she does not meet any exceptions; therefore her household includes herself, Mary, the tax filer claiming her, and Nicole, the other tax dependent – Corynn and Mary and Nicole = 3.

Nicole is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 she meets exception 1; therefore her household is determined using STEP 3. Nicole's household includes herself and her mother Corynn – Nicole and Corynn = 2.

- 7. Alice is a tax filer and claims her 12 year old grandson Michael as a tax dependent.**

Alice is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself and her tax dependent Michael – Alice and Michael = 2.

Michael is a tax dependent. Using STEP 2 he meets exception 1; therefore his household is determined using STEP 3. Michael's household includes only himself = 1.

- 8. Brad and Sarah are married and file taxes jointly. Sarah is pregnant.**

Brad is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 his household includes himself and his spouse – Brad and Sarah = 2.

Sarah is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 her household includes herself and her spouse Brad, because Sarah is pregnant her Medicaid household also includes the unborn child – Brad and Sarah and unborn child = 3.

C. DETERMINE THE MAGI HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR EACH HOUSEHOLD

MAGI household income is the sum of the MAGI-based income of every individual included in the individual's MAGI household. The MAGI household is determined using the MAGI methodology established in Item B above. For purposes of applying the MAGI methodology child means natural, adopted or step child; parent means natural, adopted or step parent; sibling means natural, adopted, half or step sibling.

- INCOME OF EACH MEMBER OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S MAGI HOUSEHOLD IS COUNTED.

EXCEPTION: Income of children, or other tax depends, who are not expected to be required to file an income tax return is not counted, whether or not the individual actually files a tax return.

NOTE: A reasonable determination as to whether an individual will be required to file a tax return can be made based on the individual's current income for the applicable budget period. Such a determination would be based on information available at the time of application or renewal. Information regarding "Who Must File" a tax return can be found in [IRS Publication 501](#).

EXAMPLE: A child is 17 years old with a part-time job in the summer and earns \$2,100 annually. He is expected to be claimed as a dependent on his parent's tax return. It is determined at application that the child is not expected to be required to file taxes the following year because his income does not exceed the filing requirements established by the IRS. Therefore, the child's income will NOT be included in the MAGI household nor count toward eligibility whether he actually files taxes or not.

EXAMPLE: A child is 18 years old and works part-time through the summer and after school. He earns \$7,200 for the year. It is determined at application that he is expected to be claimed as a dependent on his parent's tax return, and will be required to file an income tax return for the year in which Medicaid is being sought. Therefore, this child's income WILL be included for determining eligibility for any MAGI household for which he is a member.

EXAMPLE: Hope is 60 years old and lives with her 40-year-old daughter. Hope will be claimed as a tax dependent on her daughter's taxes next year. Hope receives \$960 Social Security income per month, she has no other income. Because Hope has no other income, her SS income is not taxable and she is not required to file taxes. As her daughter's tax dependent, her income does not count toward her daughter's MAGI household. Hope is also applying for health coverage. Her MAGI household will include only herself using non-filer rules in STEP 3 below. Because Hope is neither a child nor a tax dependent in her own MAGI household, her income will count toward determining her MAGI eligibility.

D. CALCULATING MAGI

To calculate the MAGI determine the AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) figure for each member of the MAGI household whose income will count, for the current month. When applicable, the worker will use the budgeting method established in Section 10.6, part B, titled "Budgeting Method", to anticipate future income amounts, consider past income sources, and build monthly income amounts based upon the applicant's reported income.

To calculate AGI, the worker must add all of the individual's income from any of the income sources listed in Section 10.3, Chart 2.

1. Exclusions from AGI:

The following income sources, which may or may not be considered taxable by the IRS, must be excluded from the individual's income:

- a. Child support income
- b. Benefits issued through the Department of Veterans' Affairs
- c. Workers' Compensation Payments
- d. Scholarships, awards, or fellowship grants used for education purposes and not for typical living expenses is excluded from income.
 - College Work Study program is considered taxable income under IRS rules and therefore cannot be excluded from the MAGI calculation.
- e. Income sources specific to Native American and Alaskan Natives:
 - Distributions from Alaska Native Corporations and Settlement Trusts;
 - Distributions from any property held in trust, subject to Federal restrictions, located within the most recent boundaries of a prior Federal reservation, or otherwise under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior;
 - Distributions and payments from rents, leases, rights of way, royalties, usage rights, or natural resource extraction and harvest from—
 - Rights of ownership or possession in any lands described in paragraph (3)(b) of this section; or
 - Federally protected rights regarding off-reservation hunting, fishing, gathering, or usage of natural resources;
 -
- f. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- g. TANF assistance.
- h. Federal tax credits.

2. Adjustments to AGI:

The following items, which can be deducted from taxes, are subtracted from the individuals AGI.

- a. Educator expenses
- b. Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials
- c. Health savings account deduction
- d. Moving expenses
- e. Deductible part of self-employment tax
- f. Self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans
- g. Self-employed health insurance deduction
- h. Penalty on early withdrawal of savings
- i. Alimony paid
- j. IRA deduction
- k. Student loan interest deduction
- l. Tuition and fees
- m. Student loan interest deduction

3. Required Additions to AGI:

To complete the calculation of MAGI for the individual, add the following income sources that may or may not be considered taxable by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS):

- a. Foreign earned income and housing cost as defined in 26 USC §911
- b. Any interest received that would normally be excluded from taxes

- c. The portion of the individual's Title II Social Security benefits typically excluded from taxation, as described in 26 USC §86(d)
- d. Self-Employment/Farming income, after accounting for depreciation and operating losses. In cases where the business or farm operated at a loss, the worker must subtract the amount of the loss from the income calculation. See the methodology established in 10.8,G,1 for calculating self-employment income.
- e. Actually available cash support of an individual other than a spouse or a natural, adopted, or step child who expects to be claimed as a dependent by another taxpayer.
- f. Lump Sum Income must be included, but it must only be counted in the month that it is received.

E. MAGI INCOME DISREGARD

The only allowable income disregard is an amount equivalent to 5 percentage points of the Federal poverty level for the applicable MAGI household size.

The 5% FPL disregard is not applied to every MAGI eligibility determination and should not be used to determine the MAGI coverage group for which an individual may be eligible. The 5% FPL disregard will be applied to the highest MAGI income limit for which an individual may be determined eligible.

EXAMPLE: A pregnant woman has MAGI household income of 135% FPL. The 5% FPL disregard will not be applied because the highest income limit of the MAGI Medicaid coverage group for which she may be eligible is 158% FPL for the Pregnant Women coverage group. If the pregnant woman's income is 160% FPL then the 5% FPL disregard would be applied to bring her income to below 158% FPL.

F. DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY

The applicant's household income must be at or below the applicable modified adjusted gross income standard for the MAGI coverage groups.

Income

- Step 1: Determine the MAGI-based gross monthly income for each MAGI household income group.
- Step 2: Convert the MAGI household's gross monthly income to a percentage of the Federal poverty level by dividing current monthly income by 100% FPL for the household size. Convert the result to a percentage.
- Step 3: Apply the 5% FPL disregard by subtracting 5 percentage points from the converted monthly gross income to determine the household income if it affects the applicant's eligibility for MAGI Medicaid or WV CHIP.
- Step 4: After the 5% FPL income disregard has been applied, the remaining percent of FPL is the final figure that will be compared against the applicable modified adjusted gross income standard for the MAGI coverage groups.

MAGI SCREENING

Applicants with income below the MAGI standard and determined eligible for coverage in a MAGI coverage group, i.e., the Adult group, Parents/Caretaker Relatives, Pregnant Women, Children Under Age 19 group or WV CHIP, should be promptly enrolled into the MAGI coverage group. The client may also pursue eligibility for non-MAGI Medicaid coverage groups while enrolled in the MAGI group. See Section 16.3,B.

NOTE: If the household income of an applicant using MAGI methodologies results in financial ineligibility for Medicaid, and the tax household income of the applicant used to determine eligibility for APTC through the Marketplace is below 100% FPL resulting in ineligibility for APTC, eligibility for Medicaid will be determined using the tax household methodologies.

EXAMPLES:

EXAMPLE 1: Erik and Hannah are married and live together with their son Ben, age 6. Erik and Hannah file a joint tax return, with Ben claimed as a tax dependent. The family applies for health coverage for all 3 family members. Erik works and earns \$1,000 per month and Hannah receives SSA benefits in the amount of \$450 per month. Ben has no income.

1. Determine the MAGI Household Size for Each Applicant:

Income

- Erik is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 in item B above, his MAGI household consists of his spouse Hannah and tax dependent Ben, resulting in a MAGI household size of 3 – Erik + Hannah + Ben
- Hannah is also a tax filer; therefore, both spouse, Erik, and dependent, Ben, count in her MAGI household, resulting in a MAGI household size of 3 – Erik + Hannah + Ben
- Ben is a tax dependent and does not meet any of the exceptions in STEP 2; therefore, his MAGI household is the same as Erik, the tax filer claiming him as a dependent, resulting in a MAGI household size of 3 – Erik + Hannah + Ben

2. Determine MAGI Household Income for each MAGI Household:

Income of each member of the applicant's MAGI household is counted unless identified as not being counted in item D. above.

- Neither Erik nor Hannah are the child or expected tax dependent of another member of the MAGI household, therefore their income will count.
- Ben is the child and expected tax dependent of another member of the MAGI household. However, he is not expected to be required to file a tax return. Any income of Ben's would not be counted.

In this example, since each applicant's MAGI household is the same – Erik + Hannah + Ben, each applicant has the same MAGI household income. Erik, Hannah and Ben's total MAGI household income = Erik and Hannah's income = \$1,000 + \$450 = \$1,450.

3. Determining Eligibility:

Erik, Hannah and Ben:

Convert the gross monthly income for each applicant's MAGI household to a percentage of the Federal poverty level. Since each applicant in this example has the same MAGI household, the same income conversion calculation will apply to all three applicants. Each applicant's MAGI household's total gross monthly income equals \$1,450.

To convert household income to a percentage of FPL and determine eligibility follow these steps:

Income

- Determine gross monthly income: \$1,450
- Determine MAGI household size: 3
- Determine 100% FPL for the household size of 3: \$1,591
- Divide gross monthly income by 100% of the FPL for the household size:
 $\$1,450/\$1,591 = .9113$
- Move decimal point two places to the right: $.9113 = 91.13\%$ FPL.
- Compare 91.13% FPL to the income threshold for each coverage group.
- The 5% FPL disregard is not required since the applicants are eligible for a MAGI Medicaid coverage group.

In this case Erik, Hannah and Ben all fall under an income threshold for Medicaid eligibility. Erik and Hannah qualify under the Adult Group and Ben under the Children Under Age 19 group.

EXAMPLE 2: Derek and Jenny live together but they are not married. They have one child together named Kate, who is 2 years old. Derek is the custodial parent of his son Kip, from a prior marriage, who lives with him full time. Derek and Jenny are both tax filers and file taxes separately. Derek claims Kip and Kate as tax dependents. Derek earns \$1,400 per month in wages. Jenny earns \$1,300 per month in wages. Neither child has income.

1. Determine the MAGI Household Size for each applicant:

- Derek is a tax filer. Using STEP 1 in item B above Derek's MAGI household size equals 3 – Derek + his tax dependents Kip and Kate.
- Jenny is a tax filer. She has no tax dependents. Jenny's MAGI household size equals 1 - Jenny.
- Kate is a tax dependent. She meets an exception in STEP 2 above because she is living with both parents, but they will not file a joint tax return; therefore, her MAGI household is determined by STEP 3. Kate's MAGI household size equals 4 – Kate + her parents Derek and Jenny + sibling Kip.

- Kip is a tax dependent, but he does not meet an exception in STEP 2. Therefore, his MAGI household is the same as Derek, the tax filer claiming him. Kip's MAGI household size is also 3 – Kip + Derek + Kate.

2. Determine MAGI Household Income for each MAGI Household:

Income of each member of the applicant's MAGI household is counted unless identified as not being counted in item C above.

- Derek is not the child or expected tax dependent of another member of this MAGI household, therefore his income will count. Kate and Kip are the child and/or expected tax dependent of another member of the MAGI household. However, neither is expected to be required to file a tax return. Any of their income would not be counted.

Derek and Kip's MAGI household income = Derek's income = \$1,400.

- Jenny is neither the child nor expected tax dependent of another member of her MAGI household; therefore, her income will count.

Jenny's MAGI household income = \$1,300.

- Kate's MAGI household includes both of her parents, Derek and Jenny.

Kate's MAGI household income = Derek and Jenny's income = \$2,700.

3. Determining Eligibility:

Convert the gross monthly income for each applicant's MAGI household to a percentage of the Federal poverty level. To convert MAGI household income to a percentage of FPL and determine eligibility follow these steps:

Derek and Kip's MAGI household income would be converted using the following steps:

- Determine gross monthly income: \$1,400
- Determine MAGI household size: 3

- Determine 100% FPL for the household size of 3: \$1,591
- Divide gross monthly income by 100% of the FPL for the household size:
 $\$1,400/\$1,591 = .8799$
- Move decimal point two places to the right: $.8799 = 87.99\%$ FPL.
- Compare 87.99% FPL to the income threshold for each coverage group.
- The 5% FPL disregard is not required since the applicants are eligible for a MAGI Medicaid coverage group.

Derek and Kip's MAGI household income is below the Medicaid income limit, therefore both will be eligible for Medicaid.

Jenny's MAGI household income would be converted using the following steps:

- Determine gross monthly income: \$1,300
- Determine MAGI household size: 1
- Determine 100% FPL for the household size of 1: \$931
- Divide gross monthly income by 100% of the FPL for the household size:
 $\$1,300/\$931 = 1.3963$
- Move decimal point two places to the right: $1.3963 = 139.63\%$ FPL.
- Subtract 5% FPL disregard: $139.63\% - 5\% = 134.63\%$ FPL.
- Compare 134.63% FPL to the income threshold for each coverage group.

Jenny's MAGI household income exceeds the income standard for the Adult Group. Her electronic account will be referred to the Marketplace to be evaluated for financial assistance with purchasing health insurance using APTC.

Kate's MAGI household income would be converted using the following steps:

- Determine gross monthly income: \$2,700
- Determine MAGI household size: 4
- Determine 100% FPL for the household size of 4: \$1,921
- Divide gross monthly income by 100% of the FPL for the household size:
 $\$2,700 / \$1,921 = 1.4055$
- Move decimal point two places to the right: $1.4055 = 140.55\%$ FPL.
- Compare 140.55% FPL to the income threshold for each coverage group.
- The 5% FPL disregard is not required since the applicant is eligible for a MAGI Medicaid coverage group.

Kate's MAGI household income is below the Medicaid income standard children age 1 to 5. Therefore, Kate will be eligible for Medicaid.

G. SPECIAL SITUATIONS

1. Self-Employment

When a member of the MAGI household income group receives self-employment income, the instructions below must be used to arrive at the gross profit which is used to calculate countable income. This is determined by subtracting allowable business expenses from the gross income.

a. Determining Gross Income

The method used to determine monthly gross income from self-employment varies with the nature of the enterprise. It is necessary to determine which of the following types of self-employment applies to the client's situation. Once the pattern of self-employment is determined, this is used to determine how the income is counted.

(1) Persons Receiving Regular Income

These persons receive income on a more or less regular schedule (weekly, monthly, etc.), or receive a specific amount from the business each week or month and/or receive the balance of profit from the enterprise at the end of the business year.

The income of people in this situation is converted to a monthly amount according to the Budgeting Method in Section 10.6.

Business expenses may be computed on a monthly basis or prorated over a 12-month period, at the client's option.

(2) Persons Receiving Irregular Income

Many persons derive income from short-term seasonal self-employment. This seasonal enterprise may be the major source of income for the year, or the income may be only for the period of time the person is actually engaged in this enterprise, with other sources of income being available during the remainder of the year. Persons who are seasonally self-employed include vendors of seasonal commodities (produce, Christmas trees, etc.), or other seasonal farmers.

Cash-crop farmers and other persons similarly self-employed receive their annual income from self-employment in a short period of time and budget their money to meet their living expenses for the next 12 months. Included in this category are some seasonal farmers, when the seasonal income is the primary support for the year.

Since the income is seasonal, it must be averaged over the period of time it is intended to cover, even if it is the major source of income for the year. However, if the averaged amount of past income does not accurately reflect the anticipated monthly circumstances because of a substantial increase or decrease in business, the income is calculated based on anticipated earnings.

Business expenses may be computed on a monthly basis or prorated over a 12-month period, at the client's option.

(3) New Business

AG's with a new business that has been in existence less than a year have their income averaged over the amount of time the business has been in operation. From this, the monthly amount is projected for the coming year. However, if the averaged amount of past income does not accurately reflect the anticipated monthly circumstances because of a substantial increase or decrease in business, the income is calculated based on anticipated earnings.

Incurred business expenses are also averaged over the amount of time the business has been in operation. However, if the averaged amount of past expenses does not accurately reflect the anticipated monthly circumstances because of a substantial increase or decrease in business, the expenses are calculated based on anticipated costs.

b. Determining Gross Profit

Gross Profit from self-employment is the income remaining after deducting any identifiable costs of doing business from the gross income. The instructions below must be used to arrive at the gross profit which is used to calculate countable income.

These instructions are based upon the IRS Form Schedule C, used by self-employed individuals to file Federal taxes on their self-employment income.

Income from self-employment is calculated by totaling the following items, as described on the Schedule C:

- Add Merchant card and third party payments.
- Add Gross receipts or sales (separate from items reported above).

Income

- Add Income that results from “Statutory Employee” status. If an individual’s income results from such a status, they would receive a W-2 for the year which has the “Statutory Employee” box checked.
- Add any other form of income received by the business.
- Subtract returns, allowances, and other adjustments.
- Subtract the cost of goods sold, calculated using the following methodology:
 - Add value of inventory at the beginning of the period under consideration.
 - Add purchases (disregarding cost of items withdrawn for personal use)
 - Add labor costs (disregarding amounts paid to oneself).
 - Add materials and supplies.
 - Add other costs.
 - Subtract value of inventory at the end of the period under consideration.
- Subtract the expenses related to the business’ operations. The following expenses can be deducted:
 - Advertising
 - Car and truck expenses
 - Commissions and Fees
 - Contract Labor
 - Depletion
 - Depreciation and section 179 expense deduction
 - Employee benefit programs

- Insurance (not including health insurance)
 - Interest (mortgage and from other loans)
 - Legal and professional services
 - Office expenses
 - Pension and profit-sharing plans
 - Rent or lease (Includes vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other business property)
 - Repairs and maintenance
 - Supplies
 - Taxes and licenses
 - Travel, meals, and entertainment
 - Utilities
 - Wages
 - Any other business related expenses
- Subtract the business' expenses from its income to arrive at the self-employment income profit or loss for the individual.

2. Annual Contract Employment

This section applies to any person employed under a yearly contract, such as school employees, including bus drivers, cooks, janitors, aids and professional staff.

These individuals have their annual income prorated over a 12-month period. Additional earnings, such as for summer work, are added to the prorated amount during the time additional earnings are received.

Although a person may not have signed a new annual contract, he is still considered employed under an annual contract when the contract is automatically renewable, or when he has implied renewal rights.

Implied renewal rights are most commonly associated with school contracts.

NOTE: This section does not apply during strike and disaster situations when the other party to the contract cannot fulfill it; or, when labor disputes interrupt the flow of earnings specified in the contract.

3. Educational Income

All student financial assistance, funded in whole or in part under Title IV of the Higher Education Act or the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is excluded in its entirety.

Treatment of educational income and expenses depends upon the source of income and the intended use.

a. Sources Which are Totally Excluded

Funds from the following sources are totally excluded:

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- Guaranteed Student Loans, including William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and Federal Direct PLUS loans and Supplemental Loans for Students, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program
- Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) and Special Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (SLEAP) Programs, formerly known as State Student Incentive Grants
- Federal Perkins Loans
- Federal Stafford Loans
- Federal Work-Study. See item b below.
- Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship
- Loans for educational expenses which meet the definition of a bona fide loan, as found in Section 10.1, Definitions.

b. College Work Study (CWS) Program

Income received from CWS Programs, funded in whole or in part under Title IV of the Higher Education Act, is excluded.

Income received from CWS Programs not funded under Title IV that is needed for the educational program or course of study is excluded. Any portion specifically earmarked for shelter, utilities, clothing or incidentals not needed for the educational program or the course of study is income.

Because income is usually paid to the student on the basis of work performed, not in one lump sum, its treatment is different than that of other educational benefits. Treatment of this income depends upon whether or not the amount to be earned in one semester is known at the beginning of the semester.

(1) Earnings Known At Beginning of Semester

When the amount of the earnings, or maximum amount which can be earned, is known at the beginning of the semester, the Worker prorates any portion, specifically earmarked for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or incidentals, not needed for the program or course of study, over the period of time it is intended to cover.

(2) Earnings Unknown At Beginning of Semester

When the amount of the earnings is not known at the beginning of the semester, any portion of the CWS income specifically earmarked for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or incidentals, not needed for the program or course of study, is treated as earned income and converted to a monthly amount according to item A. All earned income disregards and deductions apply.

c. Other Sources

Educational funds from any source, other than those listed in items a and b above, are totally excluded as being earmarked for educational purposes, unless any portion of the funds is specifically earmarked for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or incidentals not needed for the program or course of study.

Any of the funds specifically earmarked for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or incidentals, not needed for the program or course of study, are counted as unearned income and prorated over the period of time they are intended to cover.

4. Deeming

The MAGI methodology described in this section is used to determine the MAGI household and whose income will be counted.

5. Strikers

The presence of a striker has no bearing on eligibility.

6. Irregular Income

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

7. Lump Sum Payments

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

8. Withheld Income

All withheld income is counted, unless an amount is being withheld to repay income that was previously used to determine Medicaid eligibility. No other earned income is excluded just because it is withheld by the employer.

9. Funds Diverted To A PASS

Funds diverted to a PASS account are treated as earned or unearned income, depending on the source.

10. Unstated Income

There is no provision that allows for counting unstated income.

11. Spenddown

There is no spenddown provision.

Income

12. Unavailable Income

Income intended for the client, but received by another person with whom he does not live, when the individual receiving this income refuses to make it available, is excluded.

13. Income Received For A Non-Income Group Member

Income received by a member of the Income Group, which is intended and used for the care and maintenance of an individual whose income is not used in determining the eligibility of the payee's Medicaid household, is excluded as income.

14. Income Received From Military Personnel Deployed to a Designated Combat Zone

There is no provision for excluding income received as a result of service in a designated combat zone.

15. Income Belonging To or For the Benefit of a Child

The source of the income must be known and Section 10.3 consulted for how the income is treated.