

Application/Redetermination Process

- When an assistance group becomes ineligible due to failure of a parent or caretaker, without good cause, to meet the 24-month work requirement, the beginning date of eligibility cannot be any earlier than the first day on which he participates in an activity which meets the 24-month work requirement.

Exception: A parent with a newborn child has good cause while the child is less than 12 weeks of age for failure to meet the 24-month work requirement.

If the non-parent caretaker is no longer in a 12-month period for which he chose to be included, eligibility for the otherwise eligible child(ren) may begin as soon as the 12-month period ends, so long as the caretaker chooses exclusion from the assistance group.

NOTE: When a non-parent caretaker's 12-month period for which he opted inclusion ends, he may again receive WV WORKS for the otherwise eligible child(ren), even when not meeting the 24-month work requirement, as long as he chooses to be excluded from the AG. If he reapplies during the 12-month period for which he chose inclusion, or after the 12-month period ends and he again chooses to be included, he must meet the 24-month work requirement to receive WV WORKS for the child(ren).

- If the AG or non-recipient Work-Eligible Individual is serving a WV WORKS sanction, the beginning date of eligibility is the day after the sanction period ends. See Section 13.9,A. **He must re-apply to again receive WV WORKS benefits.**

Because eligibility for WV WORKS has no bearing on Medicaid eligibility, the beginning date of Medicaid eligibility must be determined according to the coverage group(s), if any, under which WV WORKS recipients receive Medicaid. See Sections 1.6 through 1.22.

N. REDETERMINATION SCHEDULE

Cases are normally redetermined annually. The redetermination schedule is set automatically by the data system, unless the Worker and Supervisor agree that a redetermination must be completed earlier. When a case is reopened without a DFA-2 the Worker must ensure that the client continues in the same redetermination cycle. The individual(s) who is interviewed must sign the DFA-2. If the child(ren) lives with both parents or a parent and a stepparent, both must sign.

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- Child support received by the parent/caretaker or BCSE belongs to the family and is not used to reimburse the Department for the DCA.

NOTE: Child support pass-through is not counted as income in determining DCA.

- The household does not include any member who is serving a WV WORKS sanction, including a check reduction. The entire AG remains ineligible until the sanction period ends. When the reason for the most recent AG closure is imposition of the 4th or subsequent sanctions, no member of the sanctioned AG may be approved or included in a DCA AG upon reapplication. Once WV WORKS has been approved again and eligibility is lost for a reason other than imposition of another sanction, the AG may be considered for DCA upon reapplication. If an adult or child would be required to be included in a WV WORKS AG, he is required to be included in a DCA AG and cannot be excluded simply to qualify for DCA. This applies even when no member of the applicant AG has previously received a DCA payment.
- The applicant must agree to have the WV WORKS application withdrawn. When a DCA payment is accepted, the recipient AG members and the non-recipient Work-Eligible Individual are ineligible for 3 months, regardless of the DCA amount or the number of months the payment represents. They remain ineligible for 3 months even if they no longer live together. The presence of one adult or emancipated minor who lived in a household that benefited from a DCA in the past 3 months, renders ineligible any new AG the member may join. Ineligibility lasts for the remainder of the 3-month period. The first month of WV WORKS ineligibility is the first month for which the DCA can be considered.

EXAMPLE: A WV WORKS AG is closed due to imposition of the 4th sanction. During the time the AG is closed, the client finds part-time employment and is later offered a better-paying full-time job out of state. He reapplies at the end of his ineligibility period and asks to be considered for a DCA payment to accept the job out of state. Because the benefit stopped due to a sanction, DCA is not appropriate. The AG is approved for an ongoing WV WORKS check. Once he becomes an active recipient, he may be eligible for a support service payment to pay relocation expenses, if he is otherwise eligible for such payment.