

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) provides the Department with additional sources of information for use in determining eligibility and the amount of the benefit for applicants and recipients. This information is provided to the Worker through the RAPIDS Data Exchange process.

Through RAPIDS, staff receives information obtained through data exchanges with other governmental agencies. The IEVS procedures ensure that appropriate privacy and procedural safeguards are applied in the use of the information.

Information obtained through IEVS is used for the following purposes:

- To verify the eligibility of the AG;
- To verify the proper amount of benefits;
- To determine if the AG received benefits to which it was not entitled; and
- To obtain information for use in criminal or civil prosecutions, based on receipt of benefits to which the AG was not entitled.

Federal Regulations require use of the following data exchanges.

- State Bureau Of Employment Programs (BEP) - Wage and UCI data is available.
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) - Unearned income data is available.
- Social Security Administration (SSA) - Retirement, Survivors Disability Income (RSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and net earnings from self-employment data are available.

The SSN of each applicant and recipient of Food Stamp benefits, WV WORKS and Medicaid is used to obtain IEVS information.

A data exchange occurs when:

- A new case is created;
- A new person is added to a benefit;
- A person's demographic information is changed; or
- The Worker makes a Wire Third Party (WTPY) Request.

It also occurs on a periodic basis for all individuals in RAPIDS, depending on the type of benefit being received.

A broadcast message alerts the Worker that an automated exchange has taken place. An alert is sent to the Worker when other data exchanges occur. The Data Exchange Response List screen DXRL contains a listing of all targeted responses in the Worker's caseload that require Worker action. The RAPIDS User Guide contains information on the use of data exchange screens. Help Screens are also available.

The Worker must record any savings on RAPIDS screen DXRU that have been generated from any discrepancy and subsequent benefit adjustment.