Version History Table				
Date:	Document:	Changes Made:	Impacted Pages:	
1/2022	SDX Guide	Updated page 12 and 13 and regulations.	Pgs. 12 and 13	
5/2022	SDX Guide	Updated page 11 to say 60-day VR and updated font for previous changes to black.	Pg. 11	
9/2022	SDX Guide	Added clarifying language to the reminder on page 4.	Pg. 4	
11/2023	SDX Guide	Removed BDE information, creating a new guide for BDE. Updated recommendations from the field and policy. Added SVES information and Beneficiary Codes. Added BDE information and updated VR information to not contain a due date unless different than the new standard 30-day VR.		
4/2025	SDX Guide	Removed Potential Income references as this is no longer a federal requirement. Added additional steps when there is an out of state address reported.	Pgs. 9, 10, 16-18	

SDX

PROCESS

GUIDE

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Definitions:

Beneficiary Data Exchange (BENDEX/BDE) – A file exchange from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that reports Social Security information to the State of Nebraska for individuals who have either applied for, or are receiving public assistance benefits. See the BDE Process Guide for additional information.

Current Pay (CP) – Currently receiving a physical check/payment from the Social Security Administration.

Disabled Adult Children (DAC) – The Disabled Adult Child (DAC), or Childhood Disability Beneficiaries (CDB) category, is a category of Medicaid eligibility. In most states, Medicaid eligibility for the Aged or Disabled is dependent upon eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). This category was created in order to protect Medicaid eligibility for persons who have been disabled from a young age who may lose their SSI benefits solely because they begin to receive Social Security benefits due to the retirement, death, or disability of a parent. If the recipient would remain eligible for SSI benefits without considering the additional Social Security income from their parents, then the recipient qualifies as a DAC. If a recipient loses SSI due to receiving benefits from a parent's Railroad Retirement or Veteran's Administration claim, or due to their own income, resources, or Social Security benefit they do not qualify as a DAC. See the <u>DAC Guide</u>.

Early Widows or Widowers – Individuals that receive Title II benefits and a portion of those Title II benefits can be deducted in determing their Medicaid eligibility when all four factors are met found in 477 NAC 22-005.02(K)(ii)(4).

Medical Insurance for Workers with Disabilities (MIWD) – Working individuals who meet the necessary disability criteria, have income within income guidelines, and are working are eligible for Medicaid. After application of income disregards, individuals with income less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are eligible for Medicaid with no premium; individuals with incomes of 200 through 249 percent of the FPL are eligible for Medicaid with a monthly premium payment. See the MIWD Eligibility Process Guide.

Non-Pay (NP) – Not receiving a physical check/payment from the Social Security Administration.

Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) – Retirement, survivors, and disability benefits paid to workers, their dependents, and survivors. RSDI is commonly referred to as Social Security.

Social Security Administration (SSA) – A U.S. government agency that administers social programs covering disability, Medicare, retirement, and survivors' benefits.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) – A payroll tax-funded, federal insurance program of the United States government. It is managed by the SSA, and is designed to provide income supplements to people who are physically restricted in their ability to be employed because of a notable disability; usually a physical disability. SSDI can be supplied on either a temporary or permanent basis, usually directly correlated to whether the person's disability is temporary, or permanent.

State Data Exchange (SDX) – A file exchange from SSA that reports SSI information to the State of Nebraska for individuals who have either applied for or are receiving public assistance benefits.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) – A means-tested program administered by SSA for aged and disabled individuals who meet certain guidelines. This program differs from RSDI in that it is not dependent upon work history, and is based on age, disability, and financial need.

1619(b) – A special Medicaid status for individuals who received Medicaid and SSI in the month before the month in which this reference applies and whose SSI payment stopped due to the level of earnings.

Purpose: The purpose of the SDX Process Guide is to provide guidance for staff when navigating the various alerts received via the SDX interface, and to combine all information into a single, streamlined document. The guide is separated into several different sections:

Section 1 provides general guidance regarding the SDX interface; Section 2 provides direction regarding specific alerts and interfaces regularly handled in the field; Section 3 provides direction regarding individuals who are 1619(b) eligible; Section 4 provides direction regarding married couples with only one current pay SSI spouse; Section 5 is miscellaneous, and provides direction regarding address mismatch, suspension, and non-pay of SSI benefits processes.

Reminder: Staff should review all pertinent information on the SDX Interfaces screens prior to contacting SSA with questions.

Interfaces may also include partial information or not answer all questions that need to be clarified when processing an application, change, or a renewal. It may be necessary for the worker to call out to another agency or the individual, etc. to clarify information further.

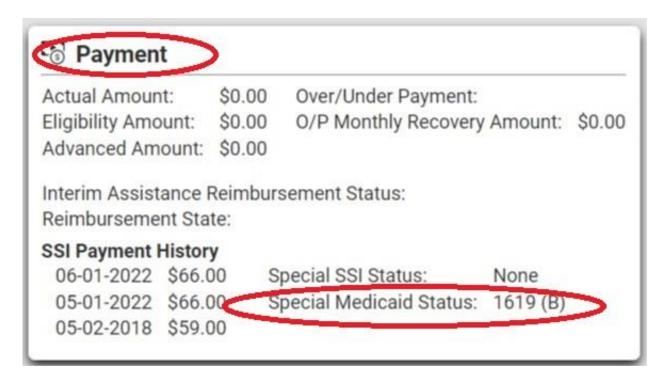


SECTION 1: What To Do When an SDX Alert is Received

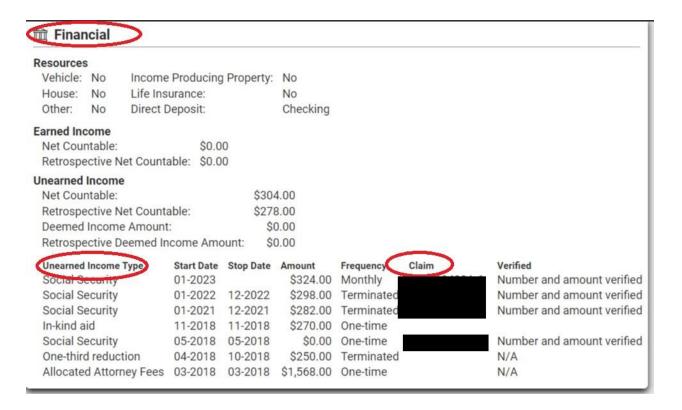
When an SDX alert is received, the following action should be taken:

Identify the person in the alert. A Master Case may have several members who have applied, been recently approved, or are currently receiving SSI benefits. Make sure you are viewing the information for the person identified in the alert. If an individual was approved as the result of an SSA appeal, certain factors will need to be considered prior to approving Medicaid. Refer to the MLTC Processing Guide for procedures.

- 1. Check the payment status for SSI benefits:
 - a) If the person remains Current Pay (CP):
 - i. Check the address in the Demographics screen to ensure that the address on file with SSA matches the address known to the agency. If the address does not match, refer to the <u>Address Mismatch</u> section of the guide.
 - b) If the person is in Non-Pay (NP) status, refer to the <u>SSI Enters NP Status</u> sections of the guide.
 - c) Determine if the participant has 1619(b) status:
 - Verify in the SDX Special Medicaid Status field (See SDX Payment screen below).
 - i. If 1619(b) eligible, refer to **SECTION 3**: *Verification of Earned Income for 1619(b)*.
 - ii. If 1619(b) has ended, refer to SECTION 3: Alert #37: 1619B Ineligibility



- 2. Check the SDX Financial tab for income (See SDX Financial screen below);
 - a) SSA monitors income for SSI individuals. However, there are times when SSI will end due to other income. The SDX Financial tab will alert a worker to other sources of income, like Veterans Affairs (VA), or RSDI benefits received on a spouse, or a parent's claim. The other income source will show up in the Unearned Income Type box at the bottom of the SDX Financial screen.



b) If this source is from an SSA claim, then check the BDE interface to see if the claim information is shown. In most cases, the additional claim will appear in the BDE interface as well. If the information is not in BDE, a State Verification Exchange System (SVES) Claim Request must be sent with the claim numbers shown in SDX in order to bring the new information into NFOCUS.
View BDE Process Guide for instructions on how to send an SVES Claim/SSN request.

Reminder: Do not assume that all information is known to the agency and close the alert without checking SDX.

SECTION 2: SDX Interfaces and Alerts

SSI Enters Non-Pay Status Due to Income or Resources:

SDX Interface: Non-Pay- Countable income exceeds SSI payment amount. **SDX Interface:** Non-Pay- Countable resources exceeds SSI payment amount.

When an individual who is CP status enters NP status due to income or resources, the individual may retain his/her disability status for up to 12 months from the date NP status begins. DHHS is responsible for reviewing financial eligibility (income and resources).

In order for Medicaid to continue, the following factors must be considered:

For individuals moving to a Non-Pay status a current application or renewal form is not required. The case must continue with its current eligibility period and renewal date.

- 1. Review for other eligibility:
 - a. Verify that the individual maintains their disability by reviewing the interface.
 - b. Review for other Non-MAGI eligibility (aged, blind, etc.). See the following guides for additional information: DAC Guide, Early Widow/Widower and MIWD Eligibility Process Guide.
 - i. Resources will need to be verified prior application for AVS consent or use the Consent Line to obtain.
 - ii. Submit an AVS request by using the AVS Procedural Guide.
 - c. Review for MAGI eligibility. If participant has a child, review for Parent/Caretaker. If there are no children or they fail Parent/Caretaker bugeting, review for MAGI Expansion/HHA eligibility. Refer to Adult MAGI Budgeting Flowchart.
 - d. Refer to the applicable sections of the <u>MLTC Processing Guide</u> to complete processing the application in another Medicaid category or close the case for the applicable reason of '*Eligilibility Requirements Not Met*'.

Additional Considerations When Non-Excludable or Countable Resources Exceed SSI limit:

When a individual begins NP status due to "Non-Excludable Resources Exceed SSI Limit", or "Countable Resources Exceed SSI Payment Amount", the resource section of the SDX financial tab must be viewed and an AVS request may be needed at this time. (See SDX Financial screen below).

financial						
Resources Vehicle:	No	Income Producing Property:	No			
House:	No	Life Insurance:	No			
Other	No	Direct Deposit:	Checking			

This section will show Vehicle, House, Other, Income Producing Property, Life Insurance, and Direct Deposit. Most resource types will have *Yes* or *No* displayed. Direct Deposit will have *Checking*, *Savings*, or *No* displayed.

- 1. If resources are declared:
 - a. Review the SDX Financial tab to determine if the resources shown correspond with the individual's attestation on the application or renewal form;
 - i. If Yes: Process the case accordingly.
 - ii. If No: Proceed to #2.
- 2. If there is a discrepancy between the individual's attestation and what is shown in the SDX Financial Resources tab, such as a "Yes" listed for "Other":
 - a. Call SSA and clarify what resource is putting the individual over SSI limits prior to sending a VR.
 - b. Once the information is clarified, refer to the <u>Medicaid Resource Verification Plan</u> to determine if a VR is appropriate.

Additional Considerations For When An Individual Loses SSI Eligibility Due to Income and Resources:

- 1. If information is provided regarding income and resources, determine eligibility under the Non-MAGI program.
- 2. If information is not provided regarding income and resources, review for continuous eligibility.
- 3. If the income and/or resources exceed Non-MAGI guidelines, review for eligibility under the appropriate MAGI category.

Alert #406: Individual State Change:

An SDX record was received for an individual indicating a move to another state. However, the residence and physical addresses have not been updated in the SDX Demographics tab. This alert should be treated as a lead.

Review Application Summary, Alerts, Change Reports, Document Imaging, and Narratives (MLTC & EA) for changes reported regarding a move out of **or** back into the state. If no information is found, or if there is a lead that the individual still resides in Nebraska:

Attempt a call-out to the individual:

- 1. If successful:
 - a. If the individual remains a CP-SSI recipient and declares intent to reside in Nebraska, accept declaration of Nebraska residency unless it is not reasonably compatible.
 - b. If the individual declares they no longer reside in Nebraska, close the case using reason of *Unable to Locate/Moved* and send a NOA with an updated address.
- 2. If unsuccessful:
 - a. <u>Send a speednote to the individual informing them of their need to contact SSA to update their address.</u>
 - b. <u>If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know where the individual is. The worker must follow the Returned Mail Process for additional action.</u>

Alert #409: Death Date Reported:

An SDX record was received confirming the death of the participant. This alert should be treated as a lead.

- 1. Review Alerts, Change Reports, Document Imaging, Vital Statistics, and Narratives (MLTC & EA) for changes reported regarding the death of the individual.
 - a. If able to confirm the death of the individual by these sources, close for *Death of Participant*.
 - b. If unable to confirm the death of the individual by these sources, contact the SSA to determine their source of information, and close for *Death of Participant*, if verified.

Alert #413: Out of State SSI Received:

An SDX record was received for an individual, and the state of residence on the SSI database is not Nebraska. This alert should be treated as a lead.

- 1. Review Application Summary, Alerts, Change Reports, Document Imaging, and Narratives (MLTC & EA) for changes reported regarding a move out of **or** back into the state.
 - 1. If there is lead that the individual currently resides in Nebraska:
 - i. Determine if the case is pending, recently approved, or ongoing.

1. If pending, or recently approved:

- a. Determine if the individual/POA/guardian has declared their intent to reside in Nebraska.
 - i. If yes, accept declaration of Nebraska residency unless it is not reasonably compatible, and verbally inform the individual to contact SSA to update their address.

NOTE: If the individual has recently moved to Nebraska, it could take some time for SSA to update their records.

- 1. Manually enter the SSI income and SSI FBR in Expert prior to processing budgets, if necessary.
- ii. If no, deny/close the case using reason *Unable to Locate/Moved*.

2. If ongoing:

- a. Attempt a call-out to the individual.
 - i. <u>If successful</u>:
 - 1. And the individual/POA/guardian declares their intent is to reside in Nebraska:
 - a. <u>Update the individual's address, etc. in NFOCUS.</u>
 - b. <u>Inform the individual of their need to contact SSA to update their address</u>.
 - ii. <u>If unsuc</u>cessful:
 - a. <u>Send a speednote to the individual informing them</u> of their need to contact SSA to update their address.
 - b. If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know where the individual is. The worker must follow the Returned Mail Process for additional action.
- 2. If there are no leads that the individual is still residing in Nebraska:
 - i. Close the case using reason *Unable to Locate/Moved*

Alert #434: Interface Record:

The Interface Record is run monthly and includes SDX, BDE, IUC, and Long-Term Care (LTC) rate changes. When this alert is received for SDX the worker must:

- 1. Compare the payment amount shown in SDX to what is shown in Unearned Income in the Expert system in NFOCUS.
 - a. If the payment amounts match, no action needs to be taken.
 - b. If the payment amounts do not match:
 - i. Update the amount in Unearned Income to the current SDX amount.
 - ii. Process budgets accordingly.

Alert #455: SSI Claim Denied:

The individual's claim through the SSA has been denied.

- 1. View SDX interface for information relating to the current eligibility status.
- 2. Review for eligibility.
 - a. If denied by the SSA for "Non-disability/Lack of Severity/Lack of Duration";
 - i. The worker should review the individual's eligibility for other Medicaid programs; and
 - ii. Process accordingly if they do qualify; or
 - iii. Deny the participant for the appropriate closure reason if they do not qualify for other Medicaid programs.

Alert #527: SSI Status Changed:

The individual's SSI payment status has changed.

- 1. View SDX interface to determine the reason for the status change.
- 2. Review for eligibility by following procedures within the SDX Process Guide that pertain to the SSI status change reason.

SECTION 3: Verification of Earned Income for 1619(b)

Alert #36: 1619(b) Eligibility:

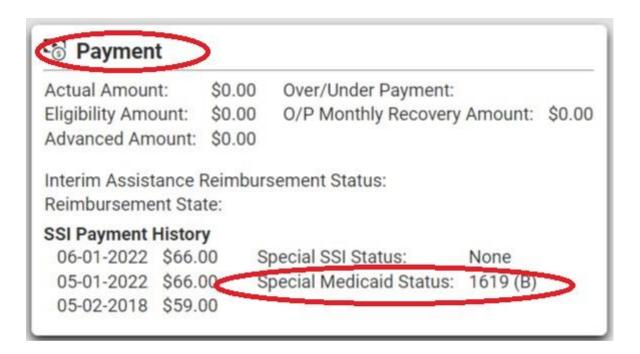
Former SSI recipients who are part of the 1619(b) program retain their eligibility for Medicaid when they return to work, even if the SSI is no longer CP. When their benefits are processed, the earned income must be entered into the Expert system in NFOCUS in order for the budgets to correctly show the 1619(b) status. The earned income has already been verified by the SSA, so no additional verification is needed. The following steps show how to find and enter the earned income for 1619(b) recipients.

NOTE: this process is **only** for eligibility determinations for 1619(b) recipients. The SDX file provides the net income, and cannot be used to determine eligibility for other individuals the 1619(b) recipient may be financially responsible for.

Reminder: Recipients of 1619(b) are categorically eligible for Medicaid.

To Update a Non-MAGI Case:

1. View the payment screen of the SDX interface file to determine whether the individual remains 1619(b). This status is shown in the Special Medicaid Status box. (See SDX Payment screen below)



2. In order for the budget to correctly show that the individual has 1619(b) status, earned income must be entered into Expert. Because the SSA has already verified the income, you can use the amount in the SDX file in Expert. View the Financial screen in SDX to get the earned income amount. (See SDX Financial screen below).



Resources

Vehicle: No Income Producing Property: No

House: No Life Insurance: No

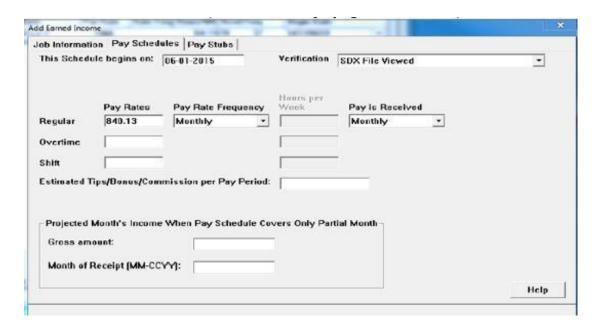
Other: No Direct Deposit: Checking

Earned Income

Net Countable: \$0.00

Retrospective Net Countable: \$0.00

3. Enter the amount noted as earned income in SDX into Expert as verified earned income. Use *SDX File Viewed* as the verification source.



4. Process the budget for the first month. The budget will change from AABD/OMB to 1619(b).



To Update a Combined Case:

- 1. Follow the MAGI Verification Plan to verify the household's gross income.
- 2. Enter the verified attested income or paystubs into Expert, using the appropriate verification source.

NOTE: If using VCI information or paystubs, you will need to be sure to use the gross amount.

3. Process the budget for the first month. The ABD/OMB budget will change to 1619(b).

Reminder: The income shown in the SDX file may not correspond with the income in SEW. Verify all income for MAGI cases processed with 1619(b).

Alert #37: 1619B Ineligibility:

An SDX record was received for an individual indicating that their 1619(b) eligibility had ended. Eligibility could have ended due to earnings, resources, or they may have returned to Current Pay status. If Social Security finds an individual ineligible for 1619(b) because of excess income (earned or unearned) or resources, Social Security does not terminate the individual, but the individual goes into a 12-month suspension period. Workers will need to review for eligibility in other programs.

SECTION 4: Married Couples, Only One Current Pay SSI Spouse

If the non-SSI spouse IS listed as an ineligible relative and as a spouse on the SDX interface:

- SSA considers the couple a single economic unit for the purposes of SSI.
- SSA is monitoring the income and resources of both spouses together, and no additional verification of income or resources is needed for the couple if the non-SSI spouse is not applying for Medicaid.
- If the non-SSI spouse is also applying for Medicaid benefits, income and/or resource verifications must be obtained to determine the non-SSI spouse's eligibility. Medicaid eligibility for the SSI spouse and the non-SSI spouse must be determined in separate Medicaid program cases.
- If the SSI spouse remains Current Pay SSI at renewal, a desk renewal should be completed for the SSI spouse only 477 NAC 3-007.03 007.03(C).
- For the non-SSI spouse, a renewal application is needed. This includes gathering income and resource verifications for the non-SSI spouse's renewal to be complete. If they fail to complete the renewal or provide verifications, only the non-SSI spouse can be denied or closed.

SECTION 5: MISC.

Address Mismatch, Suspension, and Non-Pay of SSI Benefits Processes

Address Mismatch (Individual Remains CP; Different Nebraska Address):

If the individual remains CP SSI, but there's a different NEBRASKA address listed in SDX:

- 1. Review the individual's NFOCUS address history.
- 2. Is the address in SDX the individual's old address that was previously listed in NFOCUS? **YES**—Send the individual a speednote to inform them their old address is still on file with SSA, and they should update their address to avoid any future interruption in benefits.
 - **NO**—Update the individual's address to the new address verified in SDX.

If the individual remains CP SSI with a Nebraska physical address, but there is an out of state mailing address listed in SDX:

1. Update the mailing address to the out of state address.

Reminder: Do not close the individual's Medicaid case if the individual is CP- SSI and a Nebraska physical address is listed in SDX.

SDX Interface: Suspended – Address Unknown:

In this situation, SSA uses this code when they need to speak with the individual. This could be for address unknown, or for a non-medical update for changes in income, resources, or living arrangement.

Attempt a call to the individual:

- 1. If successful:
 - a. Update the individual's address in NFOCUS.
 - b. Inform the individual of their need to contact SSA and update their address.
- 2. If unsuccessful:
 - a. And DHHS is aware of the individual's address, leave the address that is listed in NFOCUS.
 - i Send a speednote to the individual informing them of their need to contact SSA to update their address.
 - b. <u>If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know</u> where the individual is. The worker must follow the <u>Returned Mail Process</u> for additional action.

SDX Interface: Suspended – Representative Payee Development Pending:

This SDX alert is received when a new payee is being assigned. It can sometimes take a few months to complete a payee change.

- 1. The worker shall attempt to contact the individual or last-known Power of Attorney (POA) to verify if
 - they have requested a new payee. If unable to contact the individual/POA, a <u>speednote</u> shall be sent to the individual/POA requesting that they contact the SSA to request a new payee. <u>477 NAC 22-004.03(B)</u>)
- 2. The worker can contact the SSA to determine if there is another Representative Payee being vetted.

Reminder: Do not close individuals who become NP-SSI/ due to a pending Representative-Payee.

SDX Interface: Suspended - Returned Check:

In this situation, SSA uses this code when they need to speak with the individual. This could be due to the individual's routing number to the bank being incorrect; a representative payee may have inadvertently returned the check; or, the individual may have returned the check.

Attempt a call to the individual:

- 1. If successful:
 - a. <u>Inform the individual of their need to contact SSA and update their information</u>.
- 2. If unsuccessful:
 - a. <u>Send a speednote to the individual informing them of their need to contact SSA to update their information.</u>
 - b. <u>If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know</u> where the individual is. The worker must follow the <u>Returned Mail Process</u> for additional action.

Reminder: Do not close individuals who become suspended due to a returned check.

SDX Interface: Non-Pay - Failure to Furnish Required Report: Attempt a call-out to the client:

- 1. If successful:
 - a. <u>Inform the individual of their need to contact SSA and update their information</u>.
- 2. If unsuccessful:
 - a. <u>Send a speednote to the individual informing them of their need to contact SSA to update their information.</u>
 - b. <u>If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know</u> where the individual is. The worker must follow the <u>Returned Mail Process</u> for additional action.

SDX Interface: Non-Pay - Cessation of Disability:

For individuals moving to a Non-Pay status a current application or renewal form is not required. The case must continue with its current eligibility period and renewal date.

- 1. Review for other eligibility:
 - a. Review for other MAGI or Non-MAGI eligibility (aged, blind, etc.) including MAGI Expansiion and if the individual has a child, review for Parent/Caretaker.
 - b. If the individual has no children or they fail Parent/Caretaker bugeting, refer to the <u>Adult MAGI</u> <u>Budgeting Flowchart</u> and/or follow the <u>SRT Process Guide</u> for more information.
 - c. Refer to the applicable sections of the MLTC Processing Guide as needed.

SDX Interface: Non-Pay – Not a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Alien:

DHHS is responsible for reviewing financial and non-financial eligibility, including a qualified non-citizen status.

This alert refers to an individual whose SSI ended as they have reached the maximum number of years (7) in a certain non-citizen status, and have not adjusted to an allowable immigration status with the Social Security Office within that time period. SSA places time limits on certain qualified non-citizens, however; Medicaid has not imposed those same limits. SSA and Medicaid have different criteria for non-citizen status, so while an

individual may no longer be eligible for SSA benefits, Medicaid eligibility may continue once a full review is completed. When an individual enters a Non-Pay status due to this reason, the individual may retain the disability status for up to 12 months from the date the Non-Pay status begins.

For individuals moving to a Non-Pay status a current application or renewal form is not required. The case must continue with its current eligibility period and renewal date.

- 1. Review for other eligibility:
- 2. Verify that the individual maintains their disability by reviewing the interface.
- 3. Review for other Non-MAGI eligibility (aged, blind, MIWD, etc.).
- 4. If participant has a child, review for Parent/Caretaker. If there are no children or they fail Parent/Caretaker bugeting, review for HHA eligibility. Refer to Adult MAGI Budgeting Flowchart.
- 5. Refer to the applicable sections of the MLTC Processing Guide.
- 6. VLP must be requested to verify current non-citizen status. See the <u>Qualified Non-Citizen Status</u> Eligibility and <u>MLTC Citizenship and Immigration Guide</u> for additional information.
- 7. If the individual no longer meets a qualified non-citizen status, assign to the EMSA position number (75013343) if a medical emergency exists. See the EMSA Process Guide for additional information.

SDX Interface: Non-Pay – Outside United States:

In this situation, the individual has been determined by the SSA to have left the country, and is no longer in CP status. SSA does not make payments when a beneficiary is out of the country. This could mean that the individual is on vacation, or has moved away. In all cases where this alert is found, the worker must attempt to contact the household to determine if the individual is still considered a resident of Nebraska.

Attempt a call to the individual:

- 1. If successful:
 - a. <u>Inform the individual of their need to contact SSA and update their information</u>.
- 2. If unsuccessful:
 - a. <u>Send a speednote to the individual informing them of their need to contact SSA to update</u> their information.
 - b. If the speednote or other mail is being returned it is likely that DHHS and SSA do not know where the individual is. The worker must follow the Returned Mail Process for additional action.

SDX Interface: Suspension- Individual is Inmate of Penal Institution:

When an SDX or BDE alert is received by the Universal Worker indicating that an individual is incarcerated and their Social Security benefits have been suspended the worker must review the <u>Suspending Medicaid for Incarcerated Individuals Guide</u> for more information.