



# **Merative Social Program Management 8.1**

**Cúram Income Support Cash  
Assistance Program Guide**



## Note

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Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in [Notices on page 41](#)



# Edition

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This edition applies to Merative™ Social Program Management 8.0.0, 8.0.1, 8.0.2, 8.0.3, and 8.1.

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# 1 Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance Program Guide

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Income Support Cash Assistance provides eligibility determination for households that are based on financial and non-financial factors. Captured evidence is assessed against a set of business rules to determine whether the household is eligible for cash assistance.

## 1.1 Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance Program Guide overview

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The Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance Program is a reference manual for business analysts and assumes that you are familiar with the concepts of Social Enterprise Management (SEM) and that you understand the organization's business requirements.

It provides an overview of the Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance Program. It contains details of the rules that are used in assessment for eligibility and entitlements for Cash Assistance.

It is intended as a reference manual for business analysts, and does not contain any technical information about how the rules are run or how to administer the rules. For information about setting up and maintaining rules in the product, see the *Working with Cúram Express Rules* related link.

The overview is intended for anyone that is interested in learning about the rules that the Cúram Income Support Cash Assistance Program uses..

### Related concepts

## Cash Assistance overview

The Cash Assistance Program provides Cash Assistance to needy families with dependent children.

Under Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance, individuals are entitled to a maximum of 60 months of benefits within their lifetime and there is a component that requires clients to attempt to find employment. Unmarried minor parents have to live with a responsible adult or guardian unless good cause is established. Paternity of children must be established in order to receive benefits. The program aims to get people off the temporary assistance, primarily by getting them into jobs.

Cash Assistance provides eligibility determination for households based on financial and non-financial factors. The information that is required to determine program eligibility is captured as evidence. This evidence is assessed against a set of business rules to determine whether or not the household is eligible for Cash Assistance.

The following rules must be satisfied:

- The household member must satisfy the non-financial requirements.

- The household must satisfy the household composition rules or the household composition – special household circumstances AND
- The household satisfies the household determination rules AND
- The following program eligibility rules must be met by the individual:
  - Must not be a striker AND
  - Must meet the Federal Time Limit rules
- The household must satisfy the resource test AND
- The household must satisfy the income test.

## ***1.2 Non-financial requirements***

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The rules specify the non-financial requirements that a household member must satisfy before they can meet further requirements for Cash Assistance. Non-financial requirements include the rules for citizenship, Social Security Numbers, and residency.

### **Citizenship and alienage**

To qualify as a citizen, eligible alien, or qualified alien, specific conditions must be met. In addition, a qualified alien must meet specific conditions to be eligible for Cash Assistance.

#### ***Citizenship***

To qualify as a citizen, one of three conditions must be met.

the following conditions must be met to qualify as a citizen:

1. Individual must be a United States citizen OR
2. Individual must be a US non-citizen national OR
3. Individual must be an eligible alien.

#### ***Eligible alien***

To qualify as an eligible alien, an individual must meet two conditions.

An eligible alien is an individual who is BOTH classified as a:

- Qualified alien AND
- Who meets the qualified alien eligibility criteria to be eligible for Cash Assistance.

#### ***Qualified alien***

To be categorized as a qualified alien, an individual must meet one of 15 conditions.

One of the following conditions must be met to be categorized as a qualified alien:

1. An alien who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act OR
2. An alien who is admitted as a refugee OR
3. An alien who is granted conditional entry OR
4. An alien who is granted asylum under section 208 OR

5. An alien who is paroled into the United States for at least one year OR
6. An alien whose deportation is being withheld OR
7. An alien granted status as a Cuban and Haitian entrant OR
8. An alien that is admitted as an Amerasian immigrant OR
9. An American Indian that is born in Canada OR
10. Victims of a severe form of trafficking OR
11. Hmong and other Highland Lao tribal peoples who is a US veteran OR
12. An alien who is the spouse of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
13. An alien who is a surviving spouse (who has not remarried) of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who was a US veteran OR
14. An alien who is an unmarried dependent child of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
15. An alien battered or subjected to extreme cruelty who meets the following conditions:
  1. The battered alien must be battered by the battered alien's U.S. citizen or LPR alien spouse or parent AND
  2. If a parent is the battered alien, any child who lives with them is also a battered alien OR if a child is the battered alien, the parent who lives with them is also a battered alien as long as the parent did not actively participate in the battery AND
  3. The alien must not currently reside in the same household as the individual responsible for the battery or extreme cruelty AND
  4. There must be a substantial connection between the battery or extreme cruelty suffered by the alien (or the alien's child or parent) and the need for Cash Assistance benefits.

### ***Qualified alien eligibility criteria***

A qualified alien must meet specific conditions to be eligible for Cash Assistance.

Depending on the date they entered the US, a qualified alien must meet specific conditions to be eligible for Cash Assistance:

#### **Entry prior to August 22, 1996**

1. A qualified alien who entered the United States prior to August 22, 1996 can receive Cash Assistance provided the qualified alien is determined to be otherwise eligible OR
2. A qualified alien who attained qualified alien status subsequent to August 22, 1996 and who can demonstrate to the district's satisfaction that they continuously resided in the United States from their date of entry through the date they became a qualified alien, can receive Cash Assistance provided the qualified alien is determined to be otherwise eligible.

#### **Entry on or after August 22, 1996**

- A qualified alien who entered the United States on or after August 22, 1996 is ineligible to receive Cash Assistance for five years from the date the alien entered the United States or the date the alien obtained qualified alien status, whichever is the later, unless the alien meets one of the exceptions to the 5-year ineligibility period.

#### **Exceptions to the 5-year ineligibility period**

The five-year disqualification period for Cash Assistance does not apply to the following qualified aliens:

1. Someone who has lawfully resided as a qualifying immigrant in the U.S. for five years OR

2. An individual who is a lawful permanent resident with 40 qualifying quarters of Social Security coverage OR
3. An alien who is admitted as a refugee OR
4. An alien who is granted asylum OR
5. An alien whose deportation is being withheld OR
6. An alien granted status as a Cuban and Haitian entrant OR
7. An alien that is admitted as an Amerasian immigrant OR
8. An American Indian that is born in Canada OR
9. A qualified alien who is a veteran with an honorable discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States OR
10. A qualified alien who is the spouse of an honorably discharged veteran OR
11. A qualified alien who is a surviving spouse (who has not remarried) of an honorably discharged veteran OR
12. A qualified alien who is an unmarried dependent child of an honorably discharged veteran OR
13. A qualified alien who is a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
14. A qualified alien who is the spouse of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
15. A qualified alien who is a surviving spouse (who has not remarried) of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
16. A qualified alien who is an unmarried dependent child of a Hmong or Highland Laotian who is a US veteran OR
17. A qualified alien lawfully residing in the State who is on active duty in the United States military OR
18. A qualified alien who is the spouse of an individual on active duty in the United States military OR
19. A qualified alien who is an unmarried dependent child of an individual on active duty in the United States military OR
20. Victims of a severe form of trafficking.

## Social Security Number

An individual must either provide a Social Security Number or apply for a Social Security Number.

## Residency

Specific rules apply to permanent residence, abandoned residency, migrant farm workers and their children, and concurrent out-of-state benefits.

### Permanent residence

The following criteria applies to permanent residence:

1. The state of residence is the state where the individual is living permanently.
2. The individual is alive. An individual cannot receive benefits if they are deceased.

### Abandoned residency

Abandoned residency applies in either of these instances:

1. An individual leaves the state for more than <90> consecutive days OR
2. An individual leaves the state with no intention of return.

### **Migrant farm workers**

The following criteria applies to migrant farm workers:

- The state of residence is the state in which the individual is living at the time of application AND
- The individual entered the state with a job commitment or to seek employment, whether or not the individual is actually employed at the time of application.

### **Migrant farm workers' children**

The following criteria applies to the children of migrant farm workers:

- A child is a resident of the State in which the caretaker is a resident.

### **Concurrent out-of-state benefits**

The following requirement applies to concurrent benefits in another state:

- The individual does not receive benefits in another state.

## ***1.3 Assistance unit determination overview***

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The Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance program rules determine all potentially eligible assistance units in the household.

The assistance units are formed around the dependent child and will then include all individuals based on the mandatory household member rules and exceptions. The assistance unit also includes an unborn child for a pregnant household member in their last trimester of pregnancy.

## **Household composition**

The household composition rule group determines the mandatory and optional household members in an assistance unit.

If a household member is determined as an optional member, the household member can be included in the assistance unit. An assistance unit is formed with and without the optional household member.

The following provides guidance on the household rules:

- Household composition rules are used to form the assistance unit and determine the household members that are included in the unit.
- The dependent child rules determine whether a child is considered a dependent child.
- Household determination rules determine the household members that are not included or excluded from the assistance unit.

### ***Mandatory household member***

The mandatory household member rules determine mandatory household members of an assistance unit for Cash Assistance.

### **Mandatory household member**

The mandatory household member exception rules define when members who would normally be mandatory members are, in certain exceptions, optional members. These rules also define when other members of the household must be considered as mandatory members of a unit as a result of the inclusion of specific optional members in a unit.

The following household members, who live in the home, must be included for Cash Assistance coverage, their income and resources are counted and they are included in the household size:

1. Dependent child who meets the dependent child rules AND
2. Natural or adoptive parent or parents of the dependent child AND
3. Blood-related or adoptive siblings who satisfy the dependent child rules.

### **Minor parent**

A minor parent and the minor parent's dependent minor child are eligible for Cash Assistance coverage. If the non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR) exceptions or the minor parent living with their parent or parents exceptions are satisfied, the minor parent and minor child form an assistance unit with and without the minor parent's parents. The assistance unit with the minor parent's parents also includes the minor parent's siblings if they satisfy the dependent child rules.

**Note:** A minor parent is a parent who is under 18, who is single, and has care of a minor child.

### **Non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR) or minor parent living with their parent or parents exception**

The following criteria applies to the NPCR or the minor parent living with their parent or parents exception:

1. The household member is a minor parent AND
2. The minor parent is living with their parent or parents or their non-parent caretaker relative AND
3. The minor parent is the parent of a dependent child AND
4. The minor parent's parents or non-parent caretaker relative are not currently receiving Cash Assistance AND
5. The minor parent and the minor parent or parent's dependent child or dependent children must be included in the assistance unit AND
6. The parents or non-parent caretaker relative of the minor parent can be included (that is, a separate assistance unit can be formed including the parents or the NPCR of the minor parent) if they are otherwise eligible, and the minor parent satisfies the dependent child rules AND
7. If the parent or non-parent caretaker relative is included, siblings of the minor parent must also be included if they satisfy the dependent child rules.

### **Household size and financial unit**

The following rules apply to the household size and financial unit:

1. If the minor parent's parents or non-parent caretaker relative are not included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance, the minor parent's parents or non-parent caretaker relative's income or resources are deemed but they are not included in the household size OR
2. If the minor parent's parents or non-parent caretaker relative are included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance, the household size and financial unit consists of the minor parent, the minor parent's parent or parents, the NPCR, the minor parent's dependent child or children and the minor parent's siblings.

## Temporary absence

The temporary absence rule group determines whether a household member is absent from the household on a temporary or long-term basis.

A household member can be absent from the household and maintain eligibility for Cash Assistance if all other program requirements are satisfied provided there is a definite intent for the absent individual to return home.

The following rules apply to temporary absence:

1. A household member who is temporarily absent from the home for not more than <180> days but who intends to return is eligible for Cash Assistance OR
2. A household member who is temporarily absent from the home for more than <180> days is ineligible for Cash Assistance unless an exception applies.

### ***Temporary absence exceptions***

The temporary absence allowable period can be extended in two instances.

The temporary absence allowable period can be extended provided there is a definite intent for the return of the individual and one of the following apply:

1. The household member is being cared for in a hospital or other public or private institution to receive treatment for a mental or physical illness OR
2. The household member is receiving education or training.

## Optional household members

Specific household members can be included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance.

The following household members, who live in the home, can, optionally, be included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance:

1. Dependent children, other than their own children, for whom the caretaker relative has responsibility.
2. Only one non-parent caretaker relative where both of the child's parents are absent from the caretaker relative's home.

If the preceding household members are included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance, their income and resources are counted and they are included in the household size.

## Household composition special circumstances

The household composition rule group that relates to special circumstances determines the assistance unit for a pregnant woman in her last trimester with no dependent children other than her unborn child.

### Pregnant woman

The household composition rule group that relates to special circumstances determines the assistance unit for a pregnant woman in her last trimester with no dependent children other than her unborn child. A pregnant woman in her last trimester is eligible for Cash Assistance where the unborn child is considered as a dependent child and there are no other dependent children in the household.

### Household size and financial unit for pregnant woman

The following household size and financial unit rules apply for pregnant women:

1. If the spouse is not living in the home, the household size is one, and only the pregnant woman's income or resources are counted OR
2. If the spouse is living in the home, the household size is two, and the pregnant woman's income or resources and the spouse's income or resources are counted.

## Dependent child

The dependent child rule group determines whether children in the household are dependent children.

For children in the household to be classed as dependent, the following criteria must be met:

1. A dependent child must be living in the home of a caretaker relative AND
2. A child must meet the age limit for a child rules AND
3. A child must be deprived of parental support and care.

For more information about the age limit for a child rules, see the *Age limit of a child under 18* and the *Age limit for a child under 19* related links.

### Related concepts

[Age limit for a child under 18 on page 17](#)

A child must be under age 18, single, and the age rule must be satisfied through the month in which the child reaches age 18.

[Age limit for a child under 19 on page 17](#)

Specific criteria applies to the age limit for a child under 19.

### ***Relationship (caretaker relative)***

The relationship between a child and the child's caretaker must meet specific criteria for the household to qualify for Cash Assistance.

The household must include one of the following to qualify for Cash Assistance:

1. A child who is living with the child's natural parent or parents or adoptive parent or parents  
OR



2. A child who is living with a non-parent caretaker in the non-parent caretaker's home, and who is related to the child as:
  - Grandfather and grandmother OR
  - Sibling OR
  - Uncle or aunt OR
  - Cousin OR
  - Nephew or niece OR
  - Persons of prior generations that are designated by the prefix grand, great, great-great, or great-great-great.
  -
3. The non-parent caretaker relative must be an adult.

**Age limit for a child under 18**

A child must be under age 18, single, and the age rule must be satisfied through the month in which the child reaches age 18.

**Age limit for a child under 19**

Specific criteria applies to the age limit for a child under 19.

The following criteria must be met:

1. A child must be under age 19, single and participating full-time in a secondary school, GED or vocational or technical training, and expect to graduate before or in the month of the child's 19th birthday AND
2. The age rule is satisfied until the last day of the month of course completion, the withdrawal of the child from enrollment, or the child's 19th birthday, whichever occurs first.

***Deprivation of support***

To qualify for Cash Assistance, a child must be deprived of parental support for one of four specific reasons.

To be eligible for Cash Assistance, a child must be deprived of parental support and care for one of the following reasons:

1. The death of a parent or parents.
2. The continued absence of a parent or parents from the home where the parent's absence interrupts or terminates the parent's functioning as a provider of maintenance, physical care, or guidance and that prevents the family from relying on their support or care of the child.
3. The physical or mental incapacity of one or both parents where the incapacity is expected to last at least 30 days and the incapacity reduces or eliminates the parent's ability to support or care for the otherwise eligible child.
4. The unemployment or underemployment of the parent that is designated as the principal wage earner.

**Continued absence**

Continued absence is defined by eight specific reasons.

The following reasons constitute deprivation by continued absence:

1. Divorce.
2. Legal separation.
3. Desertion.
4. Incarceration.

5. Deportation.
6. Hospitalization.
7. Birth out of wedlock.
8. A single-parent adoption.

The following reasons do not constitute deprivation by continued absence:

1. The parent is voluntarily absent to visit friends or relatives, to seek employment, to maintain a job, to attend school or training, so long as the parent in the home and the absent parent do not regard themselves as separated.
2. The parent is absent solely to serve active military duty.

### **Unemployment or underemployment**

For the deprivation of support, the criteria must be met for the principal wage earner, the unemployment parent, and the underemployment parent.

It is assumed that the following applies:

1. One of the parents that are living in the home is the principal wage earner AND
2. That parent is unemployed or underemployed.

### **Principal wage earner**

The principal wage earner is defined as one of the following:

1. The parent who earned the greater amount of income in the 24 months prior to the month of application OR
2. The parent that is designated as the principal wage earner by the parents when both parents earned an equal amount of income in the 24 months prior to the month of application.

### **Unemployed parent**

The following is the criteria for the unemployed parent:

1. The parent is unemployed and was unemployed for at least 30 days prior to the effective date of assistance AND
2. The unemployed parent must not have refused, without good cause, a genuine offer of employment or training prior to the effective date of assistance. The following are refusal reasons that constitute good cause:
  1. The parent's physical limitations result in an inability to engage in the work OR
  2. Lack of transportation to or from the work OR
  3. Unsafe working conditions OR
  4. The employment is not covered by worker's compensation protection OR
  5. The employment was offered through a public employment or personnel agency, which determined good cause existed OR
  6. The offered wage was less than minimum wage OR
  7. The parent lacked suitable day care OR
  8. The parent was personally providing care for a child under the age of two at the time of the refusal OR
  9. The commuting time to and from work would normally exceed two hours, round trip OR
  10. The parent could not accept the job due to illness of the parent or another family member OR
  11. The offered position was vacant due to a labor strike or lockout OR

12. The parent was incarcerated or making a required court appearance OR
13. Inclement weather prevented the parent from accepting the job or reporting for work OR
14. The parent was laid off but is expected to return to the prior place of employment within 30 days of the date of the job offer.

### **Underemployed parent**

The following is the criteria for the underemployed parent:

1. The parent is employed fewer than 100 hours a month AND
2. The parent is employed less than 100 hours in the payment month OR
3. The work hours are expected to be more than 100 hours in the payment month but the work hours were less than 100 hours in the two months immediately preceding the payment month AND
4. The work hours are expected to be less than 100 hours in the month after the payment month.

## **Household determination**

The rule group for household determination governs whether there are any non-household members, excluded household members, or individuals whose income or resources will be deemed to a household member. None of these individuals is included in the assistance unit.

### ***Non-household members***

For certain household members who are ineligible for Cash Assistance, their income and resources are not counted and they are not included in the household size.

Each of the following household members, who live in the home, are ineligible for Cash Assistance:

1. SSI recipients.
2. Children receiving federal, State, or local government foster care payments.
3. Children receiving federal, State, or local government adoption assistance payments.
4. Individuals who are concurrently eligible on another Cash Assistance product delivery of any status.

For the preceding household members, their income and resources are not counted and they are not included in the household size.

### ***Excluded household members***

For certain household members who are ineligible for Cash Assistance, their income and resources are counted in full and they are not included in the household size.

The following household members, who live in the home, are not eligible for Cash Assistance. For these household members, their income and resources are counted in full and they are not included in the household size.

1. Individual who failed to apply for a Social Security Number OR
2. Individual who does not satisfy the citizenship and alienage rules OR
3. Individual who does not meet the residency requirements OR
4. Individual that is disqualified because they were found guilty of committing an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) OR
5. Individual has a sanction for being a fleeing felon OR

6. Individual has a sanction for violating a condition of parole or probation OR
7. Individual has a sanction for fraudulently misrepresenting their residence in order to receive Cash Assistance from two or more states OR
8. Individual has a sanction for a drug-related felony OR
9. Individual has a sanction for job quit OR
10. Individual has a sanction for school attendance non-compliance OR
11. Individual has a sanction for minor parent school attendance non-compliance OR
12. Individual has a sanction or fails to meet the minor parent living arrangement rules OR
13. Adult responsible for a child where the child who does not meet immunization requirements has a sanction for immunization non-compliance.

**Note:** The preceding rules are run on application and reassessment.

1. Individual failed the child immunization rules OR
2. Individual failed the minor parent living arrangement rules OR
3. Individual failed the school attendance minor parent rules OR
4. Individual failed the school attendance dependent child rules OR
5. Individual failed the voluntary quit rules OR
6. Individual has an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) OR
7. Individual was convicted of a felony committed after 23rd August 1996 involving illegal drugs OR
8. Individual was convicted of making a fraudulent representation or statement OR
9. Individual is a fleeing felon OR
10. Individual is on parole (and violating parole conditions).

**Note:** The preceding rules are run on application.

### **Excluded household member exception**

There are certain exceptions to the excluded household members.

The following are exceptions to the excluded household member rule:

1. Income and resources of excluded dependent children are not counted in determining eligibility and they are not included in the household size OR
2. If the excluded individual is a non-parent caretaker relative, this individual is removed from the assistance unit. In this case, the individual's income or resources are not counted. In addition, The individuals are not included in the household size and they do not receive assistance.

### **Child immunization**

Each child must receive the standard immunizations appropriate to the child's age level unless good cause exists.

The following meet the good cause criteria for child immunization non-compliance:

1. Provision of a written statement that is signed by a licensed physician that indicates that medical conditions prohibit immunizations OR
2. Submission of a written statement that is signed by the child's caretaker that states that immunizations are contrary to their religious belief.

### **Minor parent living arrangement rules**

A minor parent must reside with the minor parent's parent or parents, legal guardian, or other adult relative unless good cause is established.

The following meet the good cause criteria for non-compliance with the minor parent living arrangement rules:

1. It is in the best interest of the minor or the minor's child to waive the requirement of living in the home of a parent, legal guardian, or adult relative OR
2. The location of the minor's parent or legal guardian is unknown OR
3. The minor or the minor's child is being or was seriously abused in the home of the parent, legal guardian, or adult relative OR
4. The minor parent lived apart from any parent or legal guardian for at least one year prior to either the birth of her child or prior to the date of the Cash Assistance application OR
5. The minor parent has no living parent or legal guardian OR
6. The minor parent is living with an adult who is not a qualifying relative but who is attempting to gain legal guardianship or legal custody of the minor parent OR
7. The minor parent lives in an adult supervised supportive living arrangement OR
8. The minor parent or legal guardian of the minor parent refuses to allow the minor parent to live in the home OR
9. The physical and the emotional health or the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent or the dependent child would be jeopardized if they resided in the same residence with the minor parent's parent or legal guardian.

### **School attendance - minor parent**

A minor parent, who has not graduated or completed high school or a general education development (GED), must be enrolled in and attending full-time an elementary or secondary (high school), vocational or technical equivalent to a secondary school or an approved alternative educational program (GED) unless good cause exists.

The following constitute good cause for the minor parent not attending school:

1. The minor parent is caring for a child under 12 weeks old OR
2. The minor parent is caring for a child or children under 6 where childcare is unavailable OR
3. The minor parent is emancipated by a court OR
4. Transportation is unavailable.

### **School attendance - dependent child**

Children aged 5 must attend school full-time until they reach age 18 or until they graduate from a secondary school or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training.

### **Voluntary quit**

An individual must not voluntarily quit a job unless good cause exists.

The following constitute good cause for voluntary quit:

1. Individual who quit at least 60 days prior to date of application OR
2. Individuals who voluntarily quit employment that was less than 30 hours per week or that had weekly earnings less than FMW times 30 OR
3. Individual satisfies a work requirements exemption other than the work registration requirement employment exemption rule OR
4. Individual gets a job, comparable to the job just quit OR
5. Individual resigns from a job at the demand of an employer OR

6. Individual terminates a self-employment business OR
7. Discrimination by an employer based on age, race, sex, color, handicap, religious beliefs, national origin, or political beliefs OR
8. Leaving a job with patterns of employment in which workers frequently move from one employer to another OR
9. Resignation by persons under 60 that are recognized by the employer as retirement OR
10. Work demands or conditions that render continuous employment unreasonable.

### **Household disqualification**

The whole household is ineligible for Cash Assistance where specific conditions apply.

The whole household is ineligible for Cash Assistance where any of the following conditions apply:

1. A household member has a current third sanction for child support enforcement non-compliance OR
2. A household member has a current third sanction for work requirements violation OR
3. A household member failed the invalid resource transfer rules (period of ineligibility or sanction) OR
4. A household member failed to register or refused to register for work.

**Note:** The preceding rules are run on application and reassessment.

The whole household is ineligible for Cash Assistance where a household member failed the child support enforcement rules.

**Note:** The preceding rule is run on application.

### **Work requirements**

Specific work requirements apply to Cash Assistance, there are work eligible exceptions, and certain individuals are deferred from participation in the work requirements.

The following work requirements apply to Cash Assistance:

1. A household member who is defined as a work-eligible individual must participate in the work program unless they have a non-participation reason OR
2. A household member who satisfies a work-eligible exception is not required to participate in the work program.

**Note:** The preceding rules are run on application and reassessment.

### **Work eligible individual**

A work eligible individual is defined as:

1. An adult (including minor child head of household) who is eligible for Cash Assistance OR
2. Ineligible parent is living with a child who is eligible for Cash Assistance.

### **Work eligible exception**

The following household members are excluded from the definition of a work-eligible individual:

1. A child that is aged under 16 or is [minor child and not head of household] and enrolled or is accepted for enrollment as a full-time student in an elementary or secondary school, or in a vocational or technical school that is equivalent to a secondary school OR
2. A parent who satisfies any of the following conditions:
  1. Responsible for the care of a disabled family member who is living in the home OR
  2. SSDI recipient OR
  3. Minor parent who is not the head of household OR
  4. Alien and is not eligible for cash assistance due to their immigration status OR
  5. SSI recipient

### **Work registration non-participation reasons**

The following individuals are deferred from participation in the work requirements:

1. Single parent or caretaker relative caring for a child under 12 months of age OR
2. Individual caring for a severely disabled child OR
3. Disabled persons and persons who are physically or mentally incapable of engaging in gainful employment OR
4. Individual aged 60 or older OR
5. Woman in her third trimester of pregnancy OR
6. Individual has not been assessed and the state deadline for the assessment has not been reached (30 days from eligibility determination date) OR
7. Individual is a victim of domestic violence OR
8. Single parent with a child under 6 years of age who can prove that childcare is unavailable OR
9. Custodial parent under 18 with child under 12 weeks of age OR
10. Family crisis or emergency OR
11. Individual has a (temporary) illness or incapacity OR
12. Individual participating in a substance abuse or mental health treatment program OR
13. Individual who lives in a remote area that is defined as more than a 2-hour round trip from home to the office OR
14. Individual that is temporarily disabled OR
15. Individual caring for another household member OR
16. Individual lacking education and work skills OR
17. Individual lacking transportation.

### **Invalid resource transfer**

If a household member performs an invalid resource transfer, the entire household is ineligible for Cash Assistance for a period.

Household members are not eligible for assistance until the expiry of the period of ineligibility or sanction. If household members apply prior to the expiry of the period of ineligibility, they are determined ineligible. The proceeding rules determine whether a resource transfer is invalid and how the period of ineligibility is calculated. On application, check whether a period of ineligibility exists for a household and that the period of ineligibility is not expired. If the period of ineligibility is expired, determine whether an invalid resource transfer exists. If the period of ineligibility is not expired, the household is ineligible.



### **Invalid resource transfer determination**

For every asset transferred by any household member in the three months prior to application or any time during the certification period:

1. Determine whether the resource is countable or excluded.
2. For countable resources, determine whether an invalid resource transfer exception applies.
3. For transfers that are not allowed, determine the uncompensated value for each transfer.
4. When the uncompensated value is greater than 0, a period of ineligibility applies for each invalid resource transfer as calculated by the proceeding rules.

### **Invalid resource transfer exceptions**

The following transfers do not affect eligibility for Cash Assistance:

- Resources that are transferred between members of the same household (including ineligible aliens or disqualified person whose resources are being considered available to the household).
- Resources that are transferred for reasons other than qualifying or attempting to qualify for Cash Assistance benefits between members of the same household (including ineligible aliens or disqualified person whose resources are being considered available to the household).

### **Calculate period of ineligibility**

Use the following to calculate the period of ineligibility:

1. Determine the uncompensated value of the asset transfer.
2. Determine the maximum benefit amount for the household size.
3. Divide the uncompensated value by the maximum benefit amount for the household size.
4. Round the result down to the nearest whole number to determine the number of months of ineligibility.
5. The period of ineligibility is for the number of months that are determined in the previous step.

### **Child support enforcement**

An individual must meet two conditions to comply with child support enforcement, unless good cause exists.

An individual must meet the following conditions to comply with child support enforcement:

1. An individual must assign all rights to support, including child support and spousal support  
AND
2. An individual must cooperate with (CSED) to obtain support unless good cause exists.

The following constitute good cause for non-compliance with child support enforcement:

1. Cooperation might result in physical or emotional harm to the child or caretaker relative OR
2. Legal proceedings for adoption of the child are pending before a court OR
3. The caretaker relative is being assisted by a public or licensed private social agency to resolve the issue for whether to keep the child or relinquish the child for adoption OR
4. The child was conceived as a result of incest or rape.



***Deemed members of financial unit***

If the household member falls into the category of sponsored alien, non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR), or minor parent, the household member might be deemed a member of the financial unit.

**Sponsored alien**

The household member is deemed a member of the financial unit if the following criteria applies:

1. The household member is an alien AND
2. The income and resources of an alien sponsor and the sponsor's spouse, if the sponsor's spouse lives with the sponsor, are deemed to an alien who is included in the assistance unit.

**Non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR)**

The household member is deemed a member of the financial unit if the following criteria apply:

1. The household member is an NPCR AND
2. The income and resources of the NPCR's spouse, if the spouse is living with the NPCR and is not included in the assistance unit, are deemed to the NPCR who is included in the assistance unit.

**Minor parent**

The household member is deemed a member of the financial unit if the following criteria apply:

1. The household member is a minor parent AND
2. The income and resources of a non-recipient parent or parents or NPCR of a minor parent are deemed to the minor parent.

**Head of household determination**

To determine eligibility for Cash Assistance, the eligible unit must have a head of household. Program rules determine the assistance units that exist within the household.

The case worker records the household's selected head of household for Cash Assistance. The household's selected head of household is assigned to the assistance unit in which the head of household is either:

- An eligible member of the assistance unit OR
- An excluded or non-household member OR
- An optionally excluded member.

The head of household can be end dated and a new head of household added.

***1.4 Program eligibility overview***

To be eligible for Cash Assistance, an individual must not be considered a striker and must meet the Federal Time Limit.

## Striker

Eligibility for Cash Assistance requires that an individual is not considered a striker, unless exempt. If an individual is considered a striker, the household might be ineligible for Cash Assistance.

The following are ineligible for Cash Assistance:

1. A parent on strike is ineligible unless exempt OR
2. A non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR) on strike is ineligible unless exempt OR
3. A caretaker relative on strike is ineligible unless exempt.

### Exempt strikers

The following individuals are not considered strikers and are therefore eligible for Cash Assistance:

1. Employees unable to work as a result of striking employees OR
2. Employees who are not part of the bargaining unit on strike and who do not want to cross the picket line due to fear of personal injury or death OR
3. Employees that are affected by a lock out.

### Parent on strike

The following Cash Assistance rules apply to parents on strike:

1. The household is ineligible for Cash Assistance for any month in which a natural or adoptive parent is, on the last day of that month, participating in a strike AND
2. The parent is not an NPCR to any children in the assistance unit.

### Non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR) on strike

The following Cash Assistance rules apply to NPCRs on strike:

1. The individual is the NPCR of a child in the assistance unit AND
2. The individual is not a parent of any children in the assistance unit AND
3. The NPCR is participating in a strike on the last day of the month and only the NPCR is ineligible for Cash Assistance for that month and their income and resources are not counted and they are not included in the household size AND
4. Children for whom the individual is an NPCR are eligible on their own.

### Caretaker relative on strike

The following Cash Assistance rules apply to caretaker relatives on strike:

1. The individual is the NPCR of a child in the assistance unit AND
2. The individual is also a parent of a child or children in the assistance unit AND
3. The individual is participating in a strike on the last day of the month AND
4. The caretaker relative and the caretaker relatives natural or adopted children are ineligible for Cash Assistance for that month and their income and resources are not counted and they are not included in the household size AND
5. Children for whom the caretaker relative is an NPCR are eligible on their own.

## Federal Time Limit

Federal legislation imposes a lifetime limit of 60 months on the receipt of federally funded Cash Assistance for an adult or a minor parent (who is the head of household). Children are exempt from the Federal Time Limit.

For each household member for whom the Federal Time Limit applies, the system determines whether or not the limit is reached for the household member. If the limit is reached for a household member and no exemption or extension applies, then the entire assistance unit is ineligible for Cash Assistance. The system determines whether or not the month that is being paid for a specific household member for Cash Assistance is counted towards the time limit. When you are counting the limit, include out of state months.

If a household member has a valid exemption, they might receive Cash Assistance during this period and the months of assistance that is received are not counted towards the Federal Time Limit. If a household member has a valid extension, then the household might receive Cash Assistance and exceed the 60-month limit for the time the extension applies.

**Note:** A household in which any adult member, including a minor parent who is the head of household, received federally funded Cash Assistance for 60 countable months is ineligible for benefits unless an exemption or extension was granted.

### ***Time limit exemptions***

The months when a family receives assistance while the family is living in Indian country where at least 50 percent of the adults are not employed does not count in calculating the 60-month time limit. Under federal law, all states must disregard these months when they are calculating the time limit.

### **Time limit extensions**

Families who meet specific criteria are eligible for a Cash Assistance extension.

Families who reach the 60-month time limit for Cash Assistance and who meet the following criteria are eligible for a Cash Assistance extension:

- Hardship, as defined by the state OR
- The family includes an individual that is subjected to domestic violence.

## ***1.5 Alien sponsor***

An alien sponsor is defined by four rules.

The following rules specify the definition of an alien sponsor and the sponsor deeming exceptions:

1. A person who signed an Affidavit of Support on behalf of an alien as a condition of the alien's entry or admission to the U.S. AND
2. The sponsor is not included in the assistance unit AND
3. The sponsor and the sponsor's spouse or the sponsor's spouse are financially responsible for the alien by deeming their income to the alien unless an exception is met AND
4. An alien can have more than one sponsor.

The deeming rules for sponsors use the preceding rules.

## Sponsorship deeming exceptions

The alien sponsor deeming rules do not apply to certain aliens.

The following aliens are not subject to the alien sponsor deeming rules:

1. The alien is a refugee OR
2. The alien is a parolee OR
3. The alien is an asylee OR
4. The alien is a Cuban entrant OR
5. The alien is a Haitian entrant OR
6. Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) who adjusted from refugee or asylee status OR
7. Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) who entered the country before December 19, 1997 OR
8. Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) who applied for a visa or adjusted their status before December 19, 1997 OR
9. Indigent Alien Exemption applies for 12 months from the month of determination OR
10. The sponsored alien becomes a naturalized citizen OR
11. The sponsored alien worked, or can be credited with, 40 qualifying quarters OR
12. The alien's sponsor dies OR
13. The sponsored alien leaves the U.S. permanently OR
14. The sponsor signed an Affidavit of Support OR
15. The battered alien spouse, alien parent of a battered child, or child of a battered alien, are exempt from deeming for 12 months and the batterer must not be part of the household OR
16. The alien is a victim of severe forms of trafficking.

Do not deem the income or resources of a sponsor if the alien belongs to any of the preceding categories.

## Battered alien: first 12 months

For aliens who meet specific criteria, their income is not deemed for the first 12 months.

Do not deem income for the first 12 months for aliens who meet the following criteria:

- The battered alien must be battered by the battered alien's U.S. citizen or LPR alien spouse or parent AND is a refugee AND
- Either 1 or 2 of the following applies.
  1. If a parent is the battered alien, any child who lives with them is also a battered alien OR
  2. If a child is the battered alien, the parent who lives with them is also a battered alien where the parent did not actively participate in the battery AND
  3. There is a substantial connection between the battery and the need for benefits AND
  4. The individual subject to such battery or cruelty does not live in the same household with the individual responsible for the cruelty.

## Battered alien: after 12 months

After 12 months, the alien continues to be exempt from sponsor deeming if two conditions are met.

After 12 months, the alien continues to be exempt from sponsor deeming if:

- The alien demonstrates that the battery or cruelty is recognized in an order of a judge or administrative law judge AND
- The local department determines that the abuse continues to have a connection to the need for benefits.

## 1.6 Cash Assistance calculations overview

Calculate Cash Assistance by using specific rules for resources, income, expenses, and benefit calculations.

Total countable resources include resources that are deemed to the household. The decision tables in the Cúram Express Rules Editor contain a list of countable resources. For more information, see the *Rule Element Reference for Decision Table Templates* related link. If the household's resources exceed the resource limit, the household is ineligible for benefits.

Use income rules to determine the unearned, earned, and self-employment income that is countable or non-countable for the household. The decision tables in the Cúram Express Rules Editor contain a list of countable income. For more information, see the *Rule Element Reference for Decision Table Templates* related link. Gross income is countable unearned, earned, and self-employment income. Total countable income includes income that is deemed to the household. The income rules also specify a net income limit that the household's net income cannot exceed. Net income is gross income minus allowable deductions or expenses.

Apply the benefit calculation, benefit reduction, and initial month proration rules to determine the benefit amount for the assistance unit.

### Related reference

## Resource calculations

Use resource rules to determine countable and non-countable resources for the household.

Resources are classified as either countable or non-countable and liquid or non-liquid. Only countable resources are included in the resource eligibility determination. A household's countable resources must be less than a specified resource limit.

Resources that can readily be converted to cash are liquid resources. All other types of resources are non-liquid resources.

**Note:** The household's countable resources must be equal to or less than \$2000.

For more information about resource calculations, see the *Resource deeming* and the *Total countable resources* related links.

### Related concepts

[Resource deeming on page 30](#)

The individuals whose resources are deemed is determined as part of the household determination rules.

[Total countable resources on page 30](#)

For every individual in the financial unit whose resources are counted, perform three steps.

### **Resource deeming**

The individuals whose resources are deemed is determined as part of the household determination rules.

For every individual in the financial unit whose resources are deemed, perform the following steps:

1. If the individual is a sponsor, perform sponsor to alien deeming.
2. If the individual is a major parent who is not included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance, perform parent to child deeming (major parent to minor parent).
3. If the individual is the spouse of an eligible non-parent caretaker relative (NPCR), perform spouse to spouse deeming.

### **Resource deeming exceptions**

Resources from the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient are not deemed.

### **Sponsor to alien deeming**

When deeming resources, first apply the sponsor definition and the sponsor deeming exception rules for income deeming. For more information, see the *Alien sponsor* related link.

For each sponsor, use the following to determine the resources to be deemed to the alien:

- If the sponsor does not have a spouse who is living in the home:
  - Calculate countable resources for the sponsor AND
  - Subtract \$1500 from the countable resources AND
  - Deem the remainder to the alien.
- If the sponsor does have a spouse who is living in the home:
  - Calculate countable resources for the sponsor and the spouse AND
  - Subtract \$1500 from the countable resources AND
  - Deem the remainder to the alien.

### **Parent to child deeming (major parent to minor parent)**

1. Calculate countable resources for the parent or parents AND
2. Deem the ineligible parent's or parents' total countable resources to the eligible child.

### **Spouse to spouse deeming**

1. Calculate countable resources for the ineligible spouse AND
2. Deem the ineligible spouse's total countable resources to the eligible individual.

### **Related concepts**

#### ***Total countable resources***

For every individual in the financial unit whose resources are counted, perform three steps.

For every individual in the financial unit whose resources are counted, perform the following steps:

1. Calculate the individual's countable resources AND

2. Add total deemed resources, if any, to the individual's total countable resources to determine the total countable resources AND
3. Add the individual's countable resources to other household member's countable resources to determine the household's total countable resources.

## Income calculations

Use income rules to determine the unearned, earned, and self-employment income that is countable or non-countable for the household.

Only countable income is included in the income eligibility determination. Use the decision tables in the Cúram Express Editor to view a list of countable income. For more information, see the *Rule Element Reference for Decision Table Templates* related link. A household's countable income must be less than a specified income limit.

1. The household's monthly gross countable income is equal or less than 185% of the monthly Standard Needs Budget for the household size AND
2. The household's monthly net countable income is equal to or less than the 100% of the monthly Standard Needs Budget for the household size

The following are the steps to undertake when you are determining the total countable gross and net income for Cash Assistance:

### Related reference

#### **Gross income calculations**

With the financial unit that is previously determined in the household composition rules for Cash Assistance, execute six steps for the gross income test.

#### **Gross countable income**

For every individual in the financial unit whose income is counted, perform the following steps:

1. Calculate individual's countable gross unearned income from all sources.
2. Add deemable income, if any, to the individual's unearned income.
3. Add the individual's countable gross unearned income to other household member's countable gross unearned income.
4. Calculate the individual's countable gross earned income from all sources, including income from self-employment.
5. Add the individual's countable gross earned income to other household member's countable gross earned income.
6. Combine the household's total gross unearned income and the total gross earned income to determine the household's total gross income.

#### **Income deeming**

The individual whose income is deemed is determined as part of the household determination rules.

For every individual in the financial unit whose income is deemed, perform the following steps:

1. Total the deemor's countable gross unearned income from all sources.
2. Total the deemor's countable gross earned income from all sources, including income from self-employment.

3. If the individual is a sponsor, execute the sponsor to alien deeming OR
4. If the individual is a major parent who is not included in the assistance unit for Cash Assistance, execute the parent to child deeming (major parent to minor parent) OR
5. If the individual is the spouse of an eligible non-parent caretaker relative, execute the spouse to spouse deeming.

### **Income deeming exceptions**

Income of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient is never deemed to any other individual. This rule applies to all the income of the SSI recipient, not just the SSI amount.

### **Sponsor to alien deeming**

When deeming income, apply the sponsor definition and the sponsor deeming exception rules. For more information, see the *Alien sponsor* related link and the *Sponsorship deeming exceptions* related link.

If the sponsorship deeming exceptions do not apply, perform the following:

1. For each sponsor, determine the amount of money to be deemed to the alien.
2. From the sponsor's and the spouse's live-in-spouse, if any, countable earned income:
  1. Deduct the \$100 work allowance AND
  2. Add the gross countable unearned income AND
  3. Subtract an amount equal to 100% Standard of Need for the number of ineligible individuals, living in the sponsor's home AND
  4. The remaining amount, if any, is deemed as unearned income to the alien.

### **Parent to child deeming**

From the major parent's or parents' gross countable earned income, execute the following:

1. Deduct up to \$100 work allowance from the gross countable earned income of each major parent AND
2. Add the countable unearned income for each major parent AND
3. Subtract an amount equal to 100% Standard of Need for the number of ineligible individuals who are living in the home, including the major parents but excluding the minor parent AND
4. Subtract any child support or alimony that is paid by each major parent to individuals not living in the home AND
5. The remaining amount, if any, is deemed as unearned income to the minor parent.

### **Spouse to spouse deeming**

From the spouse's gross countable earned income, perform the following:

1. Deduct the \$100 work allowance AND
2. Add the countable unearned income AND
3. Subtract an amount equal to 100% Standard of Need for the number of ineligible individuals who are living in the home, excluding the eligible spouse, AND
4. Subtract any additional amounts that the spouse pays to persons not living in the home, but who are, or who could be, claimed as dependents for federal income tax purposes AND
5. Subtract any child support or alimony that is paid by the spouse to individuals not living in the home AND



6. The remaining amount, if any, is deemed as unearned income to the spouse.

### **Related concepts**

[Sponsorship deeming exceptions on page 28](#)

The alien sponsor deeming rules do not apply to certain aliens.

### **Net income calculations**

Execute the net income steps only if the household's countable gross income is less than or equal to 185% of the monthly standard needs budget for the household size.

### **Income deductions**

Apply deductions for every individual in the financial unit whose income is counted. For each employed or self-employed individual in the household, apply disregards in the following order:

1. Deduct the \$100 work expense allowance:
  - Deduct up to \$100 per month from the employed or self-employed persons earned income.
2. Work incentive deduction:
  - Disregard 50% of the employed or self-employed individual's remaining monthly earned income.
3. Dependent care deduction:
  - Deduct the monthly amount that is paid for the care of each dependent child or incapacitated adult up to the maximum that is defined based on age of dependent and hours of work if:
    - The child or incapacitated adult is an eligible member of the assistance unit AND
    - The actual cost of child care is not reimbursed AND
    - The care is necessary for employment.

For each individual's remaining total income, that is, any earned plus any unearned income, apply the following disregard:

- Court-ordered child support payments:
  - The individual who is legally obligated to pay child support is eligible to deduct the amount of child support that is paid to someone outside the home.

### **Net countable income**

- Add the individual's total countable net income to other household member's countable net income after deductions. This figure is the household's total net income.

The household's monthly net countable income is equal to or less than the 100% of the monthly standard needs budget for the household size.

## **Benefit calculation**

Use three steps to determine the household's benefit amount for Cash Assistance.

Perform the following steps to determine the household's benefit amount for Cash Assistance:

1. Use the household's monthly net countable income as previously determined by the net income test.

2. Subtract the household's monthly net countable income from the maximum cash assistance amount for the household size AND
3. The balance that remains is the Cash Assistance benefit amount.

### ***Benefit reductions***

Depending on a household member's sanctions, the assistance unit's benefit amount is either reduced by 25% or 50%.

#### **25% benefit reduction**

In any of the following circumstances, the assistance unit's benefit amount is reduced by 25%:

- The member has a current first sanction for child support enforcement non-compliance OR
- The member has a current first sanction for work requirements violation.

#### **50% benefit reduction**

In any of the following circumstances, the assistance unit's benefit amount is reduced by 50%:

- The member has a current second sanction for child support enforcement non-compliance OR
- The member has a current second sanction for work requirements violation.

### ***Initial month proration***

Use four steps to determine the household's Cash Assistance benefit amount for the initial month of eligibility.

Perform the following steps to determine the household's Cash Assistance benefit amount for the initial month of eligibility:

1. A household's benefit for the initial month of certification is based on the day of the month the household applies for benefits.
2. Using the exact number of days in a month, the household receives benefits that are prorated from the day of application to the end of the month.
3. Round down the prorated benefit amount to the nearest whole dollar.
4. If the prorated allotment is less than \$10.00, no benefits are issued for the initial month.

## ***1.7 Sanctions assessment***

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The sanction assessment process is separate to Cash Assistance eligibility determination. The sanction assessment determines whether an individual might be subject to a sanction and, if so, the penalty to impose.

The sanctions are not created automatically. Instead, caseworkers manually create the sanctions.

The sanction assessment information is highlighted to the caseworker if the individual or individuals fail the sanction assessment. If a sanction assessment failure occurs, the caseworker must decide the action to take. The caseworker might choose to sanction or override the sanction for the individual or individuals. The sanction assessment information displays the reason the individual or individuals might be subject to a sanction and the appropriate penalty to impose.

Individuals who are sanctioned are generally ineligible for assistance. In some circumstances, a sanction that is imposed on an individual member of a household might make the entire

household unit ineligible. In other circumstances, a sanction might result in a reduction in benefit for the entire household unit.

The penalty that can be imposed as a result of failure of program requirements depends on a number of factors. The factors include:

- Whether previous sanctions were imposed in respect of this requirement failure.
- The level of the sanction that was previously imposed.

Individuals can be subject to a sanction if they fail to comply with the following requirements.

The sanctions assessment process runs on reassessment and determines whether any eligible members of the unit failed any of the preceding program rules.

- Child support enforcement
- Immunization
- Minor parent living arrangement
- Minor parent school non-attendance
- School attendance - dependent child
- Voluntary quit
- Work registration
- Intentional Program Violation
- Fleeing felon
- Parole violation
- Fraudulent information
- Drug-related felony

Sanctions can be imposed as a result of failure to comply with of any of the preceding program rules.

## Child support enforcement

Depending on the level of the child support enforcement sanction imposed on an individual, one of three penalties can be imposed.

For information about child support enforcement rules, see the *Assistance unit determination overview* related link.

### Penalties for child support enforcement sanctions

Depending on the level of the child support enforcement sanction imposed on an individual, the following penalties can be imposed:

1. The household receives a 25% reduction in payment for 1 month if no previous sanctions were imposed for this, for this member.
2. The household receives a 50% reduction in payment for 1 month if a previous level 1 child support enforcement sanction exists for this member.

3. The household's case is closed for a minimum of 1 month if a previous level 2 (or higher) child support enforcement sanction exists for this member.

**Related concepts**

[Assistance unit determination overview on page 13](#)

The Merative SPM Income Support Cash Assistance program rules determine all potentially eligible assistance units in the household.

## Immunization

For information about child immunization rules, see the *Child immunization* related link.

**Related concepts**

[Child immunization on page 20](#)

Each child must receive the standard immunizations appropriate to the child's age level unless good cause exists.

## Minor parent living arrangement

An individual with a current minor parent living arrangement sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

For information about minor parent living arrangement rules, see the *Minor parent living arrangement rules* related link.

If an individual has a current minor parent living arrangement sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

**Related concepts**

[Minor parent living arrangement rules on page 21](#)

A minor parent must reside with the minor parent's parent or parents, legal guardian, or other adult relative unless good cause is established.

## Minor parent school non-attendance

An individual with a minor parent school non-attendance sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

For information about minor parent school attendance rules, see the *School attendance - minor parent* related link.

If an individual has a current minor parent school non-attendance sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

**Related concepts**

[School attendance - minor parent on page 21](#)

A minor parent, who has not graduated or completed high school or a general education development (GED), must be enrolled in and attending full-time an elementary or secondary (high school), vocational or technical equivalent to a secondary school or an approved alternative educational program (GED) unless good cause exists.

## School attendance - dependent child

An individual with a school attendance - dependent child sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

For information about school attendance rules for dependent children, see the *School attendance - dependent child* related link.

If an individual has a current school attendance - dependent child sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

### Related concepts

[School attendance - dependent child on page 21](#)

Children aged 5 must attend school full-time until they reach age 18 or until they graduate from a secondary school or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training.

## Voluntary quit

Depending on the level of the voluntary quit sanction imposed on an individual, one of three penalties can be imposed.

An individual must not voluntary quit a job unless good cause exists. For information about voluntary quit rules, see *Voluntary quit* related link.

### Penalties for voluntary quit sanctions

Depending on the level of the voluntary quit sanction imposed on an individual, the following penalties can be imposed:

1. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits for 1 month if no previous sanction exists for this, for this member.
2. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits for 6 months if a previous Level 1 voluntary quit sanction exists for this member.
3. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits for 12 months if a Level 2 (or higher) voluntary quit sanction exists for this member.

### Related concepts

[Voluntary quit on page 21](#)

An individual must not voluntary quit a job unless good cause exists.

## Work registration

Depending on the level of the work registration non-compliance sanction imposed on an individual, one of three penalties can be imposed.

For information on work registration non-compliance rules, see the *Work requirements* related link.

### Penalties for work registration non-compliance sanctions

Depending on the level of the work registration non-compliance sanction imposed on an individual, the following penalties can be imposed:

1. The household receives a 25% reduction in payment for 1 month if no previous sanction exists for this, for this member.
2. The household receives a 50% reduction in payment for 1 month if a previous Level 1 work requirement sanction exists for this member.
3. The household's case is closed for a minimum of 1 month if a previous Level 2 (or higher) work requirement sanction exists for this member.

### **Related concepts**

[Work requirements on page 22](#)

Specific work requirements apply to Cash Assistance, there are work eligible exceptions, and certain individuals are deferred from participation in the work requirements.

## **Intentional Program Violation**

Depending on the level of Intentional Program Violation sanction imposed on an individual, one of three penalties can be imposed.

An individual must not be an Intentional Program Violator.

### **Penalties for Intentional Program Violation sanctions**

Depending on the level of the Intentional Program Violation sanction imposed on an individual, the following penalties can be imposed:

1. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits for 6 months if no previous sanction exists for this, for this member.
2. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits for 12 months if a previous Level 1 Intentional Program Violation sanction exists for this member.
3. The individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits permanently if a previous Level 2 (or higher) Intentional Program Violation sanction exists for this member.

## **Fleeing felon**

An individual with a current fleeing felon sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

An individual must not be a fleeing felon.

If an individual has a current fleeing felon sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

## **Parole violation**

An individual with a current parole violation sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

An individual must not be on parole and violating parole conditions.

If an individual has a current parole violation sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

## **Fraudulent information**

An individual with a current fraudulent information sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

An individual must not have a conviction for making a fraudulent representation or statement.

If an individual has a current fraudulent information sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

## **Drug-related felony**

An individual with a current drug-related felony sanction is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.

An individual must not have a conviction for a felony that was committed after 23 August 1996 involving illegal drugs.

If an individual has a current drug-related felony sanction, the individual is ineligible for Cash Assistance benefits.





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