What's Changed on 05/03/2021

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Change: CA Drug Testing

Reminder: Extension to Supplemental NA Benefits

General Information: Forms Update

This page notifies staff and the public of changes to the Cash and Nutrition Assistance Policy (CNAP) Manual regarding policy, procedures, and forms. Reminders and general information may also be displayed on this page. Prior What's Changed pages are listed in <u>FAA6.R01</u> of the CNAP Manual.

The above list summarizes the information on this page. Within the CNAP Manual, each item listed above links to screens below. This page must be discussed during the weekly <u>policy dissemination</u> in every office which determines eligibility, reviews eligibility, or answers questions regarding eligibility. (<u>Current week's FAA-1215A</u>)

Change: CA Drug Testing

EFFECTIVE DATE: With all applications received on or after 05/03/2021

On November 3, 2020, Arizona voters approved the Smart and Safe Arizona Act. As a result, marijuana for both medical and recreational use are legal for adults age 21 or over. Recreational use of marijuana by participants under the age of 21 meets the definition of Illegal drug use. This includes dependent children.

FAA staff are to continue referring participants for a CA drug test when they have reasonable cause to believe the participant engages in the use of illegal drugs. Reasonable cause exists when one of the following occurs:

- The completed Illegal Drug Use Statement (FAA-1415A) form or notice contains one or more YES responses.
- Government or law enforcement documents indicate the use of illegal drugs within the past 30 days by the participant.
- Notification by any court that the participant is convicted of a misdemeanor or felony drug charge that does not disqualify them for CA.

Central Office receives and reviews the results of the drug test referral. Based on the results Central Office notifies the FAA office of the correct action to complete.

Policy reference(s) revised due to this change:

FAA2.B07A - CA Drug Test Requirement

Prior Policy

Added a note regarding Central Office notification of positive test results. (Effective with all applications received on or after 05/03/2021.)

FAA2.B07J – <u>Drug Test Completed with Positive</u> Results

Prior Policy

Added the Smart and Safe Arizona Act to clarify legal drug use of Marijuana for adults age 21 or over. (Effective with all applications received on or after 05/03/2021.)

Reminder: Extension to Supplemental NA Benefits

An <u>Urgent Bulletin</u> was emailed on 04/30/2021 to inform staff that supplemental NA benefits, as mentioned in the <u>Urgent Bulletin</u> emailed 04/10/2020, have been extended through 05/2021. Households receiving benefits for the benefit month of 05/2021, excluding zero-pay households, will receive an emergency supplement. The supplement amount added to AZTECS by FAA Systems will be the higher of the following:

- The maximum monthly allotment for May minus the household's NA benefit amount for May
- A minimum supplement amount of \$95

The emergency supplements in May will be issued:

- On 05/04/2021 for cases with the last name starting with A-F
- With the household's regular NA benefits during the normal NA Monthly Issuance Cycle for cases with the last name starting with G-Z

NOTE The supplements are added to the EBT card by close of business on the issuance day and may not be on the EBT card first thing in the morning.

When reviewing the FSBH and FSIH screens, the emergency supplement will display separately from the household's regular May allotment. The allotment is identified as *CMAX on FSBH.



For changes that are processed for the months of 04/2020 through 05/2021 which would normally have caused an increase in NA benefits, review the FSBH screen before authorizing any supplements. When the regularly issued allotment and the emergency supplement amount total the maximum allotment for the household size, no additional benefits should be authorized on UNAU. The change should be processed through the current system month in order for the correct benefit amount to be issued for the month of 06/2021.

For changes that are processed for the months of 04/2020 through 05/2021 which would normally have caused a decrease in NA benefits, the worker must process the change in the current system month in order for the correct benefit amount to be issued for the month of 06/2021. The household must be mailed a Notice of Adverse Action (NOAA) for 06/2021. For changes that result in ineligibility for NA, timely action must be taken to close the case allowing for NOAA.

For examples on processing reported changes and supplements on UNAU, see the <u>Urgent Bulletin</u> emailed on 04/15/2020 being aware that the process was extended through the benefit month of 05/2021 and emergency supplements must be elevated through Region Management.

FAA Systems completes a 'catch-up' job each month going back four months to issue any NA emergency allotment (EA) benefits that may not have been issued. The most common scenarios for issuance during this 'catch-up' job are:

Cases that are reopened after EA issuance

Cases with older application dates that are processed after EA issuance

Do not create emergency supplements providing maximum monthly NA allotments for benefit months 01/2021 through 05/2021.

IMPORTANT

Elevate supplement requests through Region Management when one or more of the following occur:

- The household reports an increase in the household size and the previously issued supplement was for a smaller household size.
- The household was previously in zero-pay status.
- NA benefits less than the NA maximum monthly allotment for the household size have been authorized for a benefit month that is more than four months in the past (04/2020 through 12/2020).

General Information: Forms Update

Changes to Forms - 04/24/2021 through 05/01/2021

As a reminder, it is important not to save documents on your desktop or a folder. It is better to use the form you need directly from the <u>Document Center</u>. Forms are frequently updated and sometimes the current form must be used for programming purposes.

Revised forms:

No forms were revised during the specified period

Newly created forms:

No forms were created during the specified period

Revised Marketing Materials (Posters, Pamphlets, Flyers):

No revisions to marketing materials were made during the specified period