What's Changed on 01/24/2022

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Reminder: Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Program

General Information: Community Assistance Programs Outside DES

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</u> <u>dissemination</u> in every office which determines eligibility, reviews eligibility, or answers questions regarding eligibility. (<u>Current week's FAA-1215A</u>)

Reminder: Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Program

This reminder is being issued to ensure staff are correctly keying the benefits received from the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), which provides both rental and utility assistance.

The ERAP assists households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The rental assistance is administered by DES for all counties in Arizona except Maricopa, Pima, and Yuma counties, which determine their own eligibility.

The utility assistance funds are available for all counties within Arizona.

ERAP funds are not countable for Cash or Nutrition Assistance. Key the OX Unearned Income Code in the INC TYPE field on UNIC.

Do not remove the participant's rental or utility expense when participating in the ERAP.

Staff must verify the assistance is funded through the ERAP, including the amount paid. Verification includes, but are not limited to, the following:

- ERAP approval email
- ERAP mailed notice
- ERAP client portal Disbursement Schedule

Document the case file for rental assistance with the following:

Budgeted HR 133 Emergency Rental Assistance.

Document the case file for utility assistance with the following:

Budgeted ERAP Utility Assistance Program payment.

For additional information, see <u>Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Program</u> in the CNAP Manual.

General Information: Community Assistance Programs Outside DES

As outlined in a recent email sent from Director Michael Wisehart, changes have been made to programs outside of DES and can benefit FAA participants we serve. The following programs are available to the public:

- Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Voluntary Vehicle Repair Program (VVRP)

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP):

Effective 12/31/2021, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) to replace the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program. The following benefits are available under the ACP:

- A monthly discount of up to \$30 for internet service.
- A monthly discount of up to \$75 when the eligible household resides on qualifying Tribal lands.
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer. The eligible household is responsible for paying a co-pay that is no less than \$10 and is no more than \$50 to be eligible to receive the device chosen.

More information regarding this program is available at <u>acpbenefit.org</u>.

Voluntary Vehicle Repair Program (VVRP):

Under the Voluntary Vehicle Repair Program, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) assists households after a failed emissions test. Once approved for this service, the eligible household pays a \$100 co-pay, and the program pays up to \$900 toward repairs and guarantees the vehicle to pass emissions testing.

Additional repair costs above the allowable amount of \$1,000 are the vehicle owner's responsibility. When the household decides to opt-out of the program, the following applies:

- A \$75 diagnostic service fee is charged.
- The vehicle will no longer be eligible to participate in the VVRP.

More information regarding this program is available at <u>azdeq.gov/CarHelp</u>.

Please keep these resources in mind as you work with your clients. Providing references to resources beyond the ones DES provides is integral to helping meet the holistic needs of our clients.

General Information: Forms Update

Changes to Forms - 01/15/2022 through 01/21/2022

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 Marketing Materials were revised during the specified period
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New Marketing Materials (Posters, Pamphlets, Flyers):

No Marketing Materials were created during the specified period

Forms Archived from the Document Center

No forms were archived during the specified period