## 06 Budgeting Income - Overview

The following apply to budgeting income:

- Consider all earned income available to the budgetary unit when determining eligibility.
- Consider the income of a nonparticipant as not available to the budgetary unit.
- Budget countable gross income before deductions when determining eligibility for benefits.
- Budget the countable gross income received even when checks or cash are lost or stolen. When checks or cash have been lost or stolen and replaced, do not count the replacement.

Count the net income when any of the following apply:

- <u>SSA income</u> is reduced to collect an SSI overpayment.
- Income is reduced to collect an overpayment from the same source.

## **EXCEPTION**

AZTECS budgets the GROSS CA benefit for all programs when the CA payment is reduced for any of the following reasons:

- CA sanction for noncompliance.
- Withholding TPEP payments.
- CA overpayments caused by the participant. This includes changes reported untimely, fraud and <u>IPV</u>. (See <u>Recoupment of CA Income</u>)

Budget the GROSS SSI benefit when SSI is reduced for fraud or IPV.

Give <u>special consideration</u> to the income of a participant whose needs are NOT included in the budgetary unit.

When income of one or more <u>participants (g)</u> and a <u>nonparticipant (g)</u> are combined into one payment, identify each participant's share of income using the <u>verification process</u>.

When each participant's share of income cannot be identified through the verification process, complete the following:

- Divide the gross income equally between the number of participants and nonparticipants for whom the income is intended.
- Count the resulting amount as each participant's share of income.

Count income as received at the time it is made available to the participant.

## **EXCEPTION**

Count income in the month for which it is intended rather than the month in which it was received for reasons including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- An extra child, medical, or spousal support check is received due to a change in issue dates.
- Income is paid directly to a financial institution and it is automatically deposited into the participant's account.
- Income is held or delayed at the request of the participant, or the participant fails to obtain the income when it becomes available.
- An extra check is received due to a change in pay dates, such as a third or fifth check issued early due to a holiday or weekend.
- A change in pay dates or mailing cycles results in monthly or semimonthly pay being received in another month.

Key earned income on EAIC or SEEI, and unearned income on UNIE or UNIC.

Policy and procedures for budgeting earned and unearned income are outlined as follows:

- Projecting Income
- Converting Income
- Averaging Income
- Actual Income
- Prorating Income
- Budgeting Support Payments
- Budgeting Contract Income
- Budgeting IDA Deposits
- Calculating Year to Date
- Income Frequency Codes
- Special Considerations
- Budgeting Documentation