

## 11 **Benefit Decreases**

A reported change may cause a decrease in a participant's benefits.

### **MA EXCEPTION**

The benefit decrease policy does not apply. MA participants are either eligible or ineligible.

NOTE A change from full services MA to [FES](#) decreases the services provided to the participant by [AHCCCS](#). (See [Changes in MA Category or Services](#))

### **WARNING**

When changes are reported for an OPTIONAL CA participant that result in a benefit decrease, complete the following:

- Determine the benefit amount with the change effected.
- Determine the benefit amount with the optional CA participant removed from the CA budgetary unit.
- Inform the [PI](#) of the results and allow the PI to decide whether to remove the optional CA participant from the CA budgetary unit.
- Document [CADO](#) and the [case file\(g\)](#).

When the change causes the budgetary unit to become ineligible, see the appropriate determination screen for the affected program.

NOTE Do not request further verification when the budgetary unit is ineligible based on the information already provided.

Changes may be reported more than 20 days before the first calendar day of the following month. When this occurs, the change must be completed and [NOAA](#) requested in time to effect the change for the following month.

NOTE The participant must always be allowed ten days to provide verification when the change will not result in benefits being stopped. Use the [verification process](#).

Policy and procedure regarding changes that lead to a decrease in benefits are outlined as follows, depending on whether the budgetary unit is subject to [Standard Reporting](#) or [Simplified Reporting](#) requirements:

- [Verifying Decrease \(Simplified\)](#)
- [Verifying Decrease \(Standard\)](#)
- [Effecting Decrease \(Simplified\)](#)
- [Effecting Decrease \(Standard\)](#)
- [Timeliness to Decrease \(Simplified\)](#)
- [Timeliness to Decrease \(Standard\)](#)
- [Change Notice Requirements](#)
- [Decrease Notices \(Standard\)](#)