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## .02 Methods of NA Overpayment Collection - Repayment with NA Benefits

The household may repay an NA overpayment with NA benefits. The local office must complete the following:

- Determine the balance owed on the overpayment by inquiring into OVCH. Contact the Office of Accounts Receivable and Collections (OARC) when there are questions or discrepancies regarding the status of a particular overpayment. (See <u>OARC</u> <u>Collections Address</u>) Send the participant to the redemption clerk, when a balance exists.
- When the participant chooses, accept the following methods of repayment:

A lump sum payment using NA benefits as full or partial payment of the overpayment.

A lump sum payment using both CA and NA benefits as full or partial payment of the overpayment.

When NA benefits are returned to repay overpayments for a current month or for any month for which an overpayment has not been written, the local office completes the following procedures:

- Inform the participant of its appeal rights and other repayment options.
- Refer the household to the redemption clerk who completes the following:

Accept the benefits.

Give the participant a Returned Food Stamp Receipt (FA-550).

Void and hold the returned benefits until the claim is written.

- Write the overpayment determination within one workday(g).
  The overpayment must be written at the local office where the benefits were received to ensure that the overpayment is written within the one workday time frame.
- Send a copy of the FA-529 to the redemption clerk who routes the FA-529 and benefits to OARC.

NOTE Print "Copy sent to OARC" on the original FA-529.

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The OARC Technical Support Unit completes the following:

- Void and route the NA benefits, with the case name and number, to the Revenue Control Technician in the <u>OARC</u> <u>Collections Unit</u>.
- Immediately process the FA-529.
   Upon receipt of the FA-529, update ARICS with the returned benefit information.
- Key the returned benefits in AZTECS as payment received on the overpayment.

When benefits are returned and the claim is subsequently found to be invalid, the household is entitled to <u>restored NA benefits</u> for the amount they have already paid in cash or benefits. Benefits must be restored on a timely basis.

When a household is already on recoupment, the household may still pay back in benefits when they wish to pay an amount in excess of the recoupment.