

First Friday Forum 01.08.2021

Classic Medicaid Information

*as of January 7 th , 2020	Oldest Document	Total Cases
Classic Medicaid: Spend Down Program	12/29/2020	93
Classic Medicaid: Daily Spenddown Emergent Cases	12/28/2020	1
Classic Medicaid: Alien Emergency Medical Program	11/18/2020	39

Community Services Office Lobbies are closed

- All business conducted over the phone (877-501-2233)
- Identocard service is back.
- Telephonic signature for all applications and eligibility reviews
- No EBT cards issued at the local offices except for clients with general delivery
- Drop boxes are still available.

New Telephone Options

- Social Service Q&A
- TANF Q&A
- TANF Intakes with Comprehensive Eval (Pt. 1)

Certification Period Extensions

- Food/Cash ER due in Jan. or Feb. = 4 months extension
- MCRs are waived from Nov. to June 2021
- Medical ERs will continue to get auto-extended at least through Jan

Asset Verification System

- Applicants and recipients must authorize asset verification search to be eligible for medical.
- Online resource verification
- For SSI-related medical and Medicare Savings Program applications and eligibility reviews
- Similar to HCS and ALTA system

Disaster Cash Assistance (DCAP)

- It ended state-wide on January 4th, 2021.
- No new applications accepted

- For those applications received timely, they must be completed by February 6th, 2021.
- Gov. disaster proclamation expired on January 4th, 2021.

Stimulus & UC benefits

Income Type	Cash Assistance	Basic Food	Classic Medical
Coronavirus Federal Stimulus Payment (\$600/person)	<i>Not counted</i>	<i>Not counted</i>	<i>Not counted</i>
Additional \$300 Unemployment	Counted	<i>Not counted</i>	<i>Not counted</i>
Expanded or Extended Unemployment	Counted	Counted	<i>Not counted</i>
Pandemic Relief Payments (WA State Program for gig workers, \$550)	Counted	Counted	<i>Not counted</i>

Child-Support “Pass-Through” Payments

- Previously, DCS collect *all* child support on behalf of TANF recipients.
- Starting 02/01/2021, TANF recipients may begin to receive a portion of that collected child support.
- “Pass-Through’ payments
- \$50 max for one child or \$100 max for more than one child
- Not counted against cash assistance but counted for food and medical

P-EBT (Pandemic EBT)

- Spring 2020 P-EBT program closed
- Received approval from the Feds regarding P-EBT benefits for Fall 2020.
- CSD is working with an outside contractor to issue P-EBT benefits.
- More information is coming soon.
- Clients will likely receive info directly from their schools.

Child Care (DCYF) – COVID

- Homelessness grace period extended to 12 months
- Expanded eligibility for single parents to attend school/training
- Co-pays waived Oct-Dec 2020
- Max Co-pay \$115 (Jan 2021-June 2021)

Basic Food Allotments

- All households will receive the maximum benefit amount for their household size
- March – December 2020
- Also, January 2021

Basic Food Allotments

- Due to the Consolidated Appropriations act passed by Congress, food benefits will *temporarily* increase by 15%.
- No effect on emergency allotments or P-EBT
- Clients will not receive a letter advising them about the increase in Food benefits.
- Food benefits will return to regular issuance amounts in July 2021.
- We anticipate it will be several weeks before they are issued.

Safeway

- Curbside pick-up for SNAP EBT
- Order online; choose EBT at checkout
- Bring EBT card to Safeway when picking up

ORCA LIFT & Subsidized Annual Pass



NEW: Customer Connect

- New Interactive Voice Response System
- Front-end of the Call Center phone number

- Allows clients to choose self-service or assisted service
- Features:
 - Verify status, including benefit amounts, next benefit payment, benefit balances, and when their next review is due.
 - Confirm if CSD has received and processed a document they submitted.
 - Check on appointment dates and times.
 - Learn the answers of many frequently asked questions.
 - Decide between self-service and speaking with an agent after hearing wait times during business hours.
 - Request a call-back.

Questions?

Mario Paduano

paduamj@dshs.wa.gov, 425-412-2792 (office), 253-293-6726 (work mobile)

Andy Som

soma@dshs.wa.gov, 206-327-2948