

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

July 1, 2010

What's Inside:
Clarification on
Food Stamp
Assistance for
Youth in Out-of-
Home Care

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH IN OUT- OF- HOME
CARE

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification regarding youth that are eligible for Food Stamp assistance.

Children in foster care may be eligible for Food Stamp benefits, depending on their living arrangement. For youth residing in a foster home, the foster parent may choose to include the youth in their eligibility unit; however, foster care payments received for the youth from the Children's Division or a Foster Care Case Management Agency are included as income to the eligibility unit, which may cause ineligibility.

For youth residing in group home settings, if their room and board includes meals, they are not eligible for Food Stamp assistance. An example of this is an Interdivisional Agreement (Medicaid waiver) youth. Per Food Stamp Manual Reference [1135.005.25 Group Living Arrangements](#), if the provider of the group home is "for profit"; the youth is not eligible to receive Food Stamp assistance.

An eligible group home setting is defined as a public or private non-profit setting that:

- serves 16 residents or less, (this applies to the individual site rather than all locations of a particular organization); and
- is licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services under section 1616(e) of the Social Security Act or comparable standards. This is the RCF-I and RCF-II level of care licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services; a Group Home or the Child Care Agency with 13 to 16 residents licensed by the Family Support Division; or Residential Facilities licensed by the Department of Mental Health.

For youth not addressed above, eligibility is determined based on individual circumstances and an application would need to be made in order to determine assistance (Food Stamp Manual Reference: [1105.015.05 Non-EU Members](#)).

Per Food Stamp Claims Manual [1142.015.00](#) and [1142.040.00](#), youth who are currently receiving Food Stamps in a group living arrangement who have been inadvertently determined eligible may receive a Demand Letter for Restitution. However, a Request for [Reduction of Claim, CARS-8 form](#) can be completed in response. Providers will receive the CARS-8 and should complete the hardship section. The individual who made the Food Stamp application is to complete the form. Per the Food Stamp Claims Manual Section [1142.055.00](#), the debt can be compromised based on a verified financial, mental, or physical hardship. For consideration of reduction of the claim, a CARS-8 form must be completed and sent to the Food Stamp Program and Policy Unit for each case in response to a Demand Letter.

NECESSARY ACTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff. 2. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: 	
PDS CONTACT Sally A. Gaines 573-522-6279 Sally.A.Gaines@dss.mo.gov	PROGRAM MANAGER Dena Driver 573-751-3171 Dena.Driver@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS N/A	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS CARS-8, Reduction of Claim	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES Food Stamp Claim Manual: 1135.005.25 Group Living Arrangements 1105.015.05 Non-EU Members 1142.015.00 Types of Claims 1142.040.00 Responsible Members 1142.055.00 Collection Procedures	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A	

PROTECTIVE FACTORS (Link applicable factors and enter N/A if not applicable.)

Parental Resilience N/A

Social Connections N/A

Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development N/A

Concrete Support in Times of Need N/A

Social and Emotional Competence of Children N/A

FACES REQUIREMENTS

N/A