



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING



ISMAEL AHMED
DIRECTOR

June 7, 2010

The Honorable Bill Hardiman, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable Dudley Spade, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator Hardiman and Representative Spade:

Section 273(1) of 2009 Public Act No. 129 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to report policy changes made to implement provisions of enacted legislation including the DHS budget act. Attached is the report for May 2010.

The report contains the bulletin number of the policy release s well as the effective date, subject and summary of the policy.

If you have any questions about the attached material, please contact Judith Galant, online manual coordinator, at (517) 241-7084.

Sincerely,

for Ismael Ahmed

Attachment

C: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies
Senate and House Policy Offices
State Budget Office

Emergency Needs Policy**ADB 2010-001****EFFECTIVE** May 13, 2010.**Subject** **ADM 990, Title IV-E Adoption Incentives**

Section 473A of the Social Security Act provides title IV_E adoption incentive payments to eligible states that increase the number of children adopted in specific circumstances. Any funds for which the state is eligible will be spent on activities such as:

- Statewide conference for public and private adoption staff, adoption advocates, adoptive families, court personnel and professions to present best practice information to encourage networking and development of improved practices.
- Post-adoption educational forums for parents and youth.
- Support to prepare children and families for adoption.

Other adoption specific activities allowable under titles IV-B and IV-E.

BPB 2010-011**EFFECTIVE** July 1, 2010.**Subject** **Bridges - Child Development and Care (CDC).****BAM 110, 115, BEM 706**

All aide and relative care providers must complete the basic training requirement before they will be eligible to receive DHS payments. Providers can be enrolled in Provider Management, if all eligibility criteria is met. Eligibility determination and benefit calculation should be run and the case certified.

ERB 2010-002**EFFECTIVE** May 10, 2010**Subject** **State Emergency Relief Energy Services****ERM 303**

The maximum yearly payment limits for the following State Emergency Relief (SER) energy services are increased. The new cap amounts are:

Natural gas, wood and all other fuel types except for propane, fuel oil and coal - \$850.

Electricity - \$850.

All-electric household - \$1,700.

Caps may decrease depending on LIHEAP funding. Local offices will be notified of any decrease.

MEMORANDUM

2010-014

EFFECTIVE May 11, 2010.

Subject Interim Policy – Delay in Processing Cases Due to a Parent Seeking Employment Out of State

Purpose This IV-D Memorandum introduces an interim policy allowing support specialists (SSs) to delay processing specific public assistance referrals from the Department of Human Services (DHS) into IV-D court action referrals (CARs) through the Michigan Child Support Enforcement System (MiCSES). This interim policy is designed specifically for families who apply for public assistance due to the temporary separation of a parent who is actively seeking employment out of state. This policy was developed in an effort to allow financial latitude for families who are struggling due to Michigan's current economic environment and to avoid referring significant numbers of temporary cases to PAs and FOCs for order establishment.

Discussion Over the next 12 to 24 months, many unemployed Michigan citizens will reach the end of their unemployment benefits. Families who have depended on unemployment compensation to supplement their income may seek public assistance from DHS. It is anticipated that many currently intact families in this situation will become temporary single-parent families when one parent leaves the home in search of employment outside of Michigan. Interim IV-D policy and MiCSES procedures for processing these cases have been developed and approved. The policy and procedures will remain in place until further notice.

Policy This interim policy allows for a case processing determination that is in the best interests of the family and the children. SSs will have first-line responsibility for reviewing and processing these unique cases when referrals come in from the DHS assistance program. The SS will delay IV-D case processing for 60 days after OCS receives the referral if a case meets all of the following criteria:

1. Interviewing reveals that the family was intact and would have remained intact if not for the unemployment and the job-seeking parent leaving the state to obtain employment;
2. In support of the above criteria, Business Objects reveals:

- No previous public assistance history; or
 - The family began to receive public assistance after the job-seeking parent became unemployed;
3. Paternity has been established for the child(ren); and
 4. The custodial party (CP) has provided current address information for the job-seeking parent as well as additional demographic information.

MEMORANDUM**2010-010****EFFECTIVE**

May 13, 2010.

Subject

State Cooperation With the Sovereign Nation of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) and Other Tribal IV-D Programs

Changes to the Table of Contents for the Michigan IV-D Child Support Manual

Purpose

This IV-D Memorandum introduces the Michigan IV-D Child Support Manual Section 7.20, "Tribal." This manual section provides updated information about Tribal IV-D programs. It also explains the agreements between OCS and KBIC OCSS for sharing data and collaborating on the delivery of child support services to children and families of KBIC and the state of Michigan.

In addition to manual section 7.20, this IV-D Memorandum introduces two new forms to use for communications between OCS and KBIC OCSS:

- Request for Verification of Tribal Membership and Territorial Jurisdiction (DHS-1081); and
- Notice of Referral for Tribal Child Support Services (DHS-1082).

This memorandum also explains numbering and section title changes in the table of contents for the Michigan IV-D Child Support Manual, which is located on mi-support.

Discussion

Operation of Tribal IV-D Programs

On March 30, 2004, the final rule on Tribal Child Support Enforcement Programs was published. This rule implements Section 455(f) of the Social Security Act as added by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA, Public Law 104-193) and amended by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law

105-33). The rule provides guidance to Tribes and Tribal organizations on obtaining federal funding for the operation of Tribal IV-D programs. The federal government provides funding for an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization that has the ability to operate a child support enforcement program which meets the objectives of the IV-D regulations.

Tribes may exercise their inherent sovereignty by deciding whether or not to operate a Tribal IV-D program. Tribes that administer IV-D programs must meet the objectives of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 302.36 requires states to include cooperation with all Tribal IV-D programs in their IV-D State Plan and to extend the full range of services to the Tribal IV-D programs available under that IV-D State Plan. Coordination between state and Tribal IV-D programs is necessary, especially in the processing of inter-jurisdictional cases.