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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**FISCAL YEAR 2010
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM #4**

TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program Institutions

FROM: Mary Ann Chartrand, Director
Grants Coordination and School Support

DATE: March 12, 2010

SUBJECT: Exclusion of Military Combat Pay

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) received the following information regarding exclusion of military combat pay for purposes of determining income eligibility in the CACFP.

As set forth in the statute, combat pay is defined as an additional payment made under Chapter 5 of Title 37 of the United States Code, or as otherwise designated by the Secretary to be excluded, that is received by the household member who is deployed to a designated combat zone. Combat pay is excluded if it is:

- Received in addition to the service member's basic pay;
- Received as a result of the service member's deployment to or service in an area that has been designated as a combat zone; and
- Not received by the service member prior to his/her deployment to or service in the designated combat zone.

A combat zone is any area that the President of the United States designates by Executive Order as an area in which the U.S. Armed Forces are engaging or have engaged in combat. As with other types of income commonly received by military personnel (such as the Basic Allowance for Housing or Basic Allowance for Subsistence payments), combat pay received by service members is normally reflected in the entitlements column of the military Leave and Earning Statement (LES). Information regarding deployment to or service in a combat zone may also be available through military orders or public records on deployment of military units.

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Operational Memorandum #4
Page 2
March 12, 2010

OTHER INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Institutions should continue to count only that portion of the deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household as income. This is a continuation of the policy established through our February 1, 2005 memorandum, Military Families and Eligibility in the Child Nutrition Programs. Further, deployed service members continue to be considered members of the household for purposes of determining income eligibility for the Child Nutrition Programs.

Call our office at (517) 373-7391 if you have questions regarding this memorandum.