**Operations Memo 23-24**

Presented By: Melissa Dybas

Subject: FoodShare Expungement Period Changes

Effective Date: September 17, 2023

Unused benefit issuances that have been available for at least 9 months (274 days) will be expunged if the card has not been used in 9 months.

Approximately 40 days before September 17, 2023, all cardholders with any amount of benefits that would be expunged will be sent a one-time letter that notifies them of the new policy and explains what actions they can take to prevent any of their benefits from being expunged.

**Operations Memo 23-25**

Subject: Removal of Education Work Requirement for Wisconsin Shares

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Currently, parents who are enrolled in basic education or postsecondary education are required to also work 20 hours per month for education to be an approved activity. Policy is being changed to allow education to be a stand-alone approved activity without any work requirement. Parents are eligible for Activity Break Periods when their education status changes. Policies regarding Activity Break Periods when a parent who is participating in basic or postsecondary education loses their employment or reduces their work hours below 20 hours per month have been removed as they no longer apply.

**Operations Memo 23-28**

Presented By: Melissa Dybas

Subject: Food Share Cost of Living Adjustments

Effective Date: October 1, 2023

Eligibility determinations for Food Share will apply the 2024 COLA amounts, standard utility deductions, and self-employed child care provider meal deductions. New amounts will be added to section 8.1.1 Income Limits, Section 8.1.2 Allotment for Monthly Net Income and FoodShare Group Size, and Section 8.1.3 Deductions of the FoodShare Wisconsin Handbook with the next handbook release.

Previously, the Transitional FoodShare allotment was frozen during the TFS certification period. Beginning Oct 1, 2023, TFS cases will also go through the annual COLA process. TFS may change soley due to COLA adjustments. Newly reported information will continue to be frozen and not used in the new calculation.

**Operations Memo 23-29**

Presented By: Melissa Dybas

Subject: FoodShare Fraud Replacement Benefits

Effective Date: July 31,2023

This memo introduces new policy that allows for the replacement of qualified stolen FoodShare benefits issued between October 1, 2022 and Sept 30, 2024 As of September 1,2023, FoodShare benefits that have been stolen may be eligible for replacement if they have been stolen via third party theft such as: Card skimming, card cloning, scamming, identity theft or similar methods. To qualify, them following conditions must be met:

* The theft occurred between October 1, 2022 and September 30,2024.
  + Members must report fraud that occurred between October 1, 2022 and August 31, 2023 to the local agency by October 2, 2023.
  + For any fraud that occurs on or after Sept 1, 2023, members must submit a request replacement benefits from within 30 days. Members may request the form online and email it to the Office of Inspector General. If this is not possible, members may contact their local agency or OIG for assistance in completing the form.
* The theft occurred up to 30 calendar days prior to the date of discovery (the date a member, household, or agency discovers the benefits were stolen)
* The household has not already received replacements for stolen benefits two times in the current federal fiscal year.
* The theft resulted in unauthorized purchases in or outside the State of Wisconsin or resulted in unauthorized online purchases for delivery at an address the member has not authorized.

The replacement amount is the total amount of benefits stolen or the amount equal to two months of the households calculated month allotment for the date immediately prior to the date in which the theft occurred.

**Operations Memo 23-27**

Presented by: Erin Heiman

Subject: Caretaker Supplement (CTS Benefit Increase)

Effective Date: July 1, 2023

CTS benefit amounts increased as of July 2023. Higher benefit amounts will be issued beginning in October 2023 and a lump sum retroactive payment for July, August, and September will be issued in September.

CTS benefit amounts for one child increases from $250 to $275, and for each additional child in the family, the monthly benefit increases from $150 to $165.

Letters will be mailed to CTS members announcing the benefit increase. Members eligible for retroactive lump sum payments will receive on-time notices informing them of the retroactive payment

**CTS Handbook Release 23-02**

Presented by: Erin Heiman

Release date: 8/14/2023

2.1 -2.5 The CTS handbook has been updated to include the option to apply and provide a valid signature via access or by phone.

3.1.12.3 At application or new request for CTS on an existing case, the IM agency must provide a Child Support Cooperation and Good Cause notice (DCF-P-5600) to parents whenever a child with an absent parent is part of the CTS application. The IM agency must also send this notice when a parent leaves the home, resulting in a child on the case now having an absent parent.

**BadgerCare+ Eligibility Handbook Release 23-03**

Presented by Kathy King

Release date 8/14/2023

1.1.2 Medicare Part B Immunosuppressive Drug Benefit (Part B-ID) ages 19 – 64 and do not have dependent children are eligible for BadgerCare+.

Added information about Medicare Part B-ID benefit throughout the handbook.

* + - 1. Cuban & Haitian Entrants new section added. If you have an applicant who is a Cuban or Haitian

Entrant I suggest you read this section.

Cuban & Haitian Entrants relates to benefit eligibility rather than an immigration status.

**Medicaid Eligibility Handbook Release 23-03**

Presented by Kathy King

Release Date 8/14/2023

7.3.3.6 Cuban & Haitian Entrants - new section added. If you have an applicant who is a Cuban or Haitian Entrant suggest you read this section.

9.1.5 Assignment Process – new section added. At application, that is not through Access, or a new request for health care on an existing case, a Notice of Assignment: Child Support, Family Support, Maintenance, and Medical Support must be given.