
EFFECTIVE

October 1, 2010.

Subject(s)

1. BAM 220, Case Actions.
2. BAM 425, Voluntary Vendor Payments.
3. BEM 218, Short Term Family Support (STFS) - Michigan's Diversion.
4. BEM 230A, Employment And/or Self-sufficiency Related Activities: FIP/RAP Cash.
5. BEM 240 Age, and 245 School Attendance/Student Status.
6. Annual federal cost-of-living changes.
7. Miscellaneous.

1) BAM 220**Case Actions****Medicaid**

An ex parte review (see glossary) must begin at least 90 days (when possible) prior to the close of any Medicaid type of assistance.

If, during the ex parte review it is determined a recipient has indicated or demonstrated a disability, request from the recipient additional information needed to proceed with a disability determination. Pending the determination, continue the recipient's Medicaid.

If, following the disability determination process, the recipient is determined to not be disabled for purposes of qualifying for disability-based Medicaid categories and eligibility under all other categories has been ruled out, send timely notice of Medicaid case closure indicating the person is not eligible for disability-based Medicaid as well as FIP-related categories.

Reason: Policy update.

2) BAM 425

Voluntary vendor payment

FIP and SDA

Clients may request vendoring at any time via the DHS-560, Vendor Payment Request, which **must be completed before vendoring begins**. Vendor payments must be at least \$2.00.

Heat and Electric

The minimum amount vendored is determined by the number of recipients receiving cash benefits; see the Table of Monthly Energy Required Payments in ERM 301.

Clients may choose to vendor more than the required amount for their eligible group size to ensure the minimum required payments are being made based on the household size.

The amount(s) withheld are sent directly to the provider twice a month.

Treasury offsets

The Department of Treasury may withhold, or offset, money from a vendor warrant when the provider has an outstanding debt to the state.

Refer providers with questions regarding the offsets to the Treasury Collections Division at (517) 241-5003.

Reason: Policy clarification.

3) BEM 218

Short Term Family Support (STFS) - Michigan's Diversion

Clients that are employed less than 12 months of the year and receive income intended to cover 12 months are not eligible for STFS. For example, school teachers who choose to receive income only during the school year and not for a 12 month period are not eligible for STFS.

SER

The STFS payment is countable unearned income if it is received during the SER period. When SER eligibility is determined after

STFS has been issued, Bridges includes the STFS payment as income for the month received when completing the required payment determination.

Reason: Policy clarification.

4) BEM 230A

Employment And/or Self-sufficiency Related Activities

FIP/RAP Cash

Disability has been revised to include when to use participation codes Low Intellectual capacity (LI), Chronic Mental health (CM) and Physical Limitations (PL).

Reason: Change in Michigan law.

5) BEM 240 & 245

Age and School Attendance/Student Status

FIP Only

The definition for a child is one who is age 18 or younger, or age 19 and a full-time student in a secondary school (or in the equivalent level of vocational or technical training) and expected to graduate by age 20.

Reason: Policy clarification.

6) Annual Federal Cost-of-Living Changes

FAP

RFT 250, 255, 260

Bridges is updated to support the annual cost-of-living update for Food Assistance Program (FAP) standards. The update will appear in budgets with an effective date of October 1, 2010.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has determined the income limits and benefit issuances will remain the same as last year. Additionally, all utility standards are staying the same or are increased with the exception of the non-heat electric standard which is

decreasing by \$1. The shelter maximum is decreased from \$459 to \$458 month.

Reason: Annual standards update.

6) Miscellaneous

The following items have minor grammatical changes:

- BAM 105 and 115.
- BEM 124 and 209.

Reason: Policy clarification.

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS**

Changed Items (content changes) ...

**BAM 115
BAM 220
BAM 425
BEM 105
BEM 124
BEM 209
BEM 218
BEM 230A
BEM 240
BEM 245**

Changed Items (link changes only) ...

**BEM 100
BEM 106
BEM 111
BEM 113
BEM 117
BEM 118
BEM 125
BEM 126
BEM 129
BEM 131
BEM 132
BEM 135
BEM 150
BEM 154
BEM 156
BEM 158
BEM 163
BEM 164
BEM 165
BEM 166
BEM 167
BEM 169
BEM 170
BEM 171
BEM 172
BEM 173
BEM 174**

BEM 211
BEM 401
BEM 546
BEM 630
BEM 640
BEM 647