

Hotline Focus



q I changed the amount of a vendor rent payment. Instead of changing the vendor payment, PACES gave the recipient a full grant and changed the vendor payment to 0. Why did this happen?

a You had a voluntary payment code on file. You added either a mandatory or voluntary code with the new rental amount. This produced a combined vendor payment more than the grant amount. When the total deductions (vendor payments or income) are greater than the grant amount, PACES zeros out any vendor payments and uses the remaining income, if any, to calculate the grant. In this case, because PACES saw both a voluntary vendor payment code and a mandatory vendor payment code, it assumed two vendor payments and added them together. The sum was greater than the grant amount so PACES zeroed out all vendor payments. When changing a vendor payment code or amount, be certain to zero out the old code and amount at the same time you enter the new ones. You should also check your DCR after you change a vendor payment to make certain it was accepted by PACES.

q I have had a completed CIP returned to me with the notation "CIP cannot be found." Since the CIP is obviously not lost, what does this mean?

a Only CIPs for client number 00 are placed on FMCS for data entry. CIPs for clients (*including clients numbered 91 and 92*) are not yet entered into FMCS. You should continue to complete dependent CIPs and file them in the case record.

q My recipient is presumptively eligible for Medicaid. She has submitted her verifications and has established her actual eligibility for Medicaid. How do I establish this case on PACES?

a Submit a TD changing the action reason to 91 and change to an appropriate group code. If necessary, change the MA start date in block 96. You must do the asset test only if the initial worksheet shows income greater than 185% of the FPL. If the recipient has no assets, using asset type 8 and entering zeros in the amount block will enable you to complete the process in one day. Page IV-36 of the *PACES User's Guide* fully describes this process.

Hotline Focus

q Are SSI disabled children (under the age of 18) eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Restaurant Program if they are part of a mixed household receiving food stamps?

a Yes, the head of the household must become the disabled child's authorized representative and get an authorized representative red ID, which has an RRR sticker attached to it. See Field Operations Memo 92-14.

q I have an AFDC applicant whose only child is disabled and receives SSI. She owns a car that is needed for the child's transportation; however, the value of this car puts her over the AFDC asset limit. Can this car be registered in the disabled child's name and would doing so make this applicant eligible for AFDC?

a If the child would require a plate for the handicapped, the car could be registered in his or her name. Because this child would not be included in the assistance unit, the mother would be eligible for AFDC if she meets all other eligibility requirements.

q When an eligible alien applies for Emergency (medical) Services, how is the approval and provision of services handled?

a When the application is approved, PACES sends the eligible alien an approval letter authorizing payment for emergency medical services only. The alien presents that letter to the medical service provider. The letter instructs the provider to call the local office to verify the alien's current eligibility.

See Section 507.600 of the *MA Policy Manual* and Section 7750 of the *MA Procedures Handbook*.

q What data does PACES retain on closed cash cases which are being reopened?

a PACES retains the following data on closed cash cases which are being reopened: assets, dependent earnings and recoupment. If this information has changed, zero out the information on file and reenter the new amounts and the appropriate codes.

This month *Hotline Focus* says good-bye to Margaret Cronan, Manager of the Hotline. Margaret is retiring after 29 years with the Department. Margaret began her career with the Department as a social worker in the New Bedford Local Office and has worked on the Policy Hotline for the last 11 years. Hotline callers will miss her as will all of us connected with bringing you *Monthly Issuance*.

