

# 12 Month Continuous Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions

March 26, 2009

## The Fine Points of 12-Month CEP

- ➔ CEP = Continuous Eligibility Period
- ➔ Children are allowed 12 months of continuous eligibility.
- ➔ DKC cases have a 12-month review period.
- ➔ Family Medicaid cases still have a 6-month review period even though children in the household receive 12 months of continuous eligibility.
- ➔ If parents report a change that makes them ineligible, they are coded out of the case and the children continue to receive Medicaid through the end of their 12-month CEP. At the end of the children's CEP a review will be requested. If the review is received, eligibility will be redetermined.
- ➔ If a report of change results in ineligibility due to earnings, all household members are put on Transitional Medicaid.

## FAQ's

### 1. What is the eligibility period for a child whose application was received in March?

It depends on when it's worked. If the application is worked in March the child's CEP is 6 months, 3/1/09 – 8/1/09. If the application is worked in April, the child's CEP is 12 months, 3/1/09 – 2/28/10. The new 12-month CEP rules are effective April 1, 2009. This means it applies to all approval or renewal actions taken on or after April 1, 2009.

### 2. I received a Medicaid application on 3/15/09 and had to pend it for proof of income. I received the proof on 3/26 and am working the case today, April 2. What eligibility periods do I apply?

The parents will have a 6-month review period, 3/1/09-8/31/09. The children will have a 12-month continuous eligibility period, 3/1/09-2/28/10.

### 3. Are there any times a child does not get a 12-month continuous eligibility period?

Yes. Continuous eligibility is applicable to all children under 19 except those with the subtypes of:

- **BA** – newborns are automatically eligible for Medicaid through the month of their 1<sup>st</sup> birthday which is normally 13 months.

- **4M & T-med** – post Medicaid categories do not give 12-month eligibility for children. If the child is on a type of Medicaid that does give them a 12-month CEP, this must be taken into consideration when setting up the post Medicaid case. When the 4M or T-med case closes, the ET must find out what the end of the original CEP was. If the child has months remaining, they must finish out their original CEP under a FM subtype.
- **Retroactive Medicaid** eligibility does not entitle the child to a 12-month continuous eligibility period.

**4. If I receive a review in 5/09 and the family is no longer eligible do the children get 12-months of Medicaid?**

No. Any children approved for Medicaid prior to April 1, 2009 are eligible for a 6-month period. Children included in a review received in 5/09 will be at the end of their 6-month CEP. If the family is no longer eligible for Medicaid, the children do not get a new CEP. If the ineligibility is caused by earnings, the entire family should be put on T-med. If the ineligibility is caused by a reason other than earnings, eligibility for DKC should be determined. If the children are eligible for DKC, they should be assigned a 12-month CEP.

**5. A Family Medicaid household reports a change in earnings that results in them being ineligible for Family Medicaid. A Transitional Medicaid case is opened for the parents. Do the children stay on FM, go on Transitional Medicaid or go on DKC?**

If the family begins receiving Transitional Medicaid at any time, the entire family must be put on Transitional Medicaid. When the Transitional Medicaid ends, the worker must ensure any children on the case have completed the 12 month continuous eligibility period originally assigned on the Family Medicaid case. If the children's 12 month CEP ends after the 6<sup>th</sup> month of T-med, set an alert on the ETAL stating what the last month of their CEP is.

**What happens if the family doesn't turn in their 4<sup>th</sup> month T-med report form?**

The parents should be coded out of the case. The ET should check the ETAL to determine the end of the children's original CEP. The children should be re-coded for Family Medicaid through the end of their original CEP by changing their subtype code on the MERE screen from T1 to AF.

6. **A Family Medicaid application was received in April for mom and one child. The application was approved. Mom is certified 4/09-9/09. The child's CEP is 4/09-3/10.**

**In July, mom reports she will begin receiving income from an annuity. This report of change results in the family being:**

**Eligible** – All household members continue to receive Medicaid through their original certification period and CEP.

**Ineligible** – Stop! Once you have found that the mom is no longer eligible, code her out of the case and continue the child through their original 12-month CEP. Do not access the MIBW for the child! (This excludes Post Medicaid categories.) A new review will be submitted during the 12<sup>th</sup> month.

7. **Using the same family and situation in number 6 above but instead of learning about the annuity in a report of change, the annuity is reported when the review is received in 9/09. The annuity income results in the family being:**

**Eligible** – All household members receive a new review period. Mom would get a new 6-month review period and the child would get a new 12-month CEP.

**Ineligible** – Stop! Once you have found that the mom is no longer eligible, code her out of the case and continue the child through their original 12-month CEP. Do not access the MIBW for the child! (This excludes Post Medicaid categories.) A new review will be submitted during the 12<sup>th</sup> month.

8. **A family applied for Medicaid on 7/1/09. The family consists of mom and 2 children, Joe (16) and Amanda (18). Amanda graduated high school in June and will turn 19 on 2/16/10. What are the certification periods?**

Mom 7/1/09-12/31/09  
Joe 7/1/09-6/30/10  
Amanda 7/1/09-2/28/10

Because Amanda has graduated high school and is 18 she is no longer eligible for Family Medicaid but is eligible for Under 21 Medicaid. She does not qualify for 12-month continuous eligibility past the month of her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

If mom submits a review in December and financial eligibility continues, all household members are assigned a new certification period. Joe will receive a new 12-month CEP and Amanda and Mom will be given a 6-month review period of 1/10-6/10. If a review is not received mom's eligibility ends 12/31/09 and the children's Medicaid continues through the end of their original CEP.

**9. What happens when a non-exempt applicant or recipient does not pursue UIB?**

**Application:** The applicant must pursue UIB before benefits are issued. If the applicant does not pursue UIB, there is no eligibility for the entire family. Deny the application.

**On-going:** When a family is receiving Family Medicaid and the ET discovers one of the parents is eligible for UIB they must send a notice to the recipient giving them 10 days to apply for UIB. If they do not, the adults are coded out of the case and the children's Medicaid continues through the end of their continuous eligibility period.