

**TO ALL DPA STAFF**  
**From**  
**Policy & Program Development**

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has clarified that if an individual receives a regular periodic payment in a month other than the month of normal receipt, we should treat the funds as income in the month of normal receipt for Adult Public Assistance and disability related Medicaid as long as there is no intent to interrupt the regular payment schedule.

Early payments most often occur when an individual receives their payment via direct deposit into a bank account or when a payer sends a check in advance because the regular payment date falls on a weekend or holiday.

**Whenever these early payments from a regularly received source such as Senior Benefits are received, the income should be considered received on the first of the month of normal receipt. This income should not be evaluated as a resource until the month following the month of normal receipt.**

Example: a client receives their Senior Benefit check on February 28 because March 1 falls on a Sunday. The Senior Benefit would be counted as income for March because the regular periodic payment is for the March benefit.

[APA MS 440-2](#) will be revised to reflect this change in an upcoming manual change.

Please direct policy related questions to Policy & Program Development at [dpapolicy@alaska.gov](mailto:dpapolicy@alaska.gov).