

+-----+
| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
+-----+

Transmittal No: 91 LCM-181

Date: October 3, 1991

Division: Income Maintenance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Payment of Child Care for Employed Caretaker Relatives Prior
to the Application of the Child Care Disregard

ATTACHMENTS: None

PA caretaker relatives must be guaranteed child care as determined necessary by the social services district in order to begin or retain employment.

A PA caretaker relative with earned income is entitled to a child care income disregard of up to \$175 per month for a child aged two and above and up to \$200 per month for a child under age 2. If the cost of the child care exceeds this disregard amount and the child care is provided by a legal child care provider, a supplemental payment must be made. This supplemental payment is equal to the difference between the disregard and the actual cost of child care up to the applicable child care market rate.

Occasionally, a recipient begins work but does not get paid for several weeks due to a normal payroll lag for new employees. Since the child care disregard is not applied until the month wages are actually received and since the supplemental payment is tied to the child care disregard, these new workers have no way to pay for the child care until the wages are received. Child care arrangements, as well as employment, may be lost due to the inability to pay for child care during this period.

90 ADM-27 discusses work-related supportive services (page 38, 3.(a)). One-time work related expenses which must be paid, if needed, include non-recurring expenses related to child care such as day care registration, application or service fees. The child care expenses incurred due to employment prior to the month in which the child care disregard is applied are considered non-recurring expenses related to child care. Such child care expenses should also be paid as a work related supportive service until the recipient is eligible to receive the child care disregard and supplemental monies. The payment type codes on Pages 95-96 of 90 ADM-27 must be used to authorize this supportive service.

Date October 3, 1991

Trans. No. 91 LCM-181

Page No. 2

The supplemental payment for child care is excluded as food stamp income as set forth on Page 35 of 90 ADM-27.

The child care expenses which are paid prior to application of the child care disregard are excluded as food stamp income because they are work-related supportive services as described in 90 ADM-27, page 39.

The amount of these excluded payments is not to be allowed as a food stamp dependent care cost.

If you have any questions regarding information in this LCM, please contact Maureen Standish, Bureau of Income Support Programs at 1-800-342-3715, extension 3-6555 or dial direct (518) 473-6555.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance