

January 2017 Summary of Changes

Chapter	Passage	Summary
1610	1620.0593	Added TCA asset exclusion for payments made to victims of Nazi persecution to align the asset exclusion with food assistance and Medicaid policy
1810	1810.0918	Changed the treatment of German Reparation payments from counted to excluded as income to comply with Public law 103-286.

Technical changes and changes in non-substantive information may be excluded from this summary.

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1620.0593 Assets Excluded by Federal Law (TCA)

Each program has certain assets excluded by federal law. These exclusions are discussed in this section.

The eligibility specialist must verify or document the amount of the benefit received from the following sources, since they are potential assets:

1. SSI benefits or SSI lump sum payments.
2. Assistance from a vocational rehabilitation agency within certain limitations.
3. Disaster assistance payments (P.L. 100-707). This exclusion applies to federal disaster assistance and comparable state or local assistance.
4. Emergency payments made by another agency prior to the date direct assistance is received.
5. Any grant, loan, gift or scholarship received by the individual. Effective 7/1/93, this includes financial assistance provided under programs in Title IV of the Higher Education Act and under Bureau of Indian Affairs student assistance programs. Effective 7/1/93, student financial assistance for attendance costs under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act is also excluded. Attendance costs include: tuition and fees (as required by the institution of all students in the same course of study); and books, supplies, transportation, dependent care and miscellaneous personal expenses (as included in the assistance grant) for those attending on at least a half-time basis, as defined by the institution. Living expenses are not allowed as attendance costs unless the assistance grant includes funds for this purpose as part of miscellaneous personal expenses.

Funds derived from the following sources are not considered available income or assets, and it is not required that the source be verified or documented:

1. Payments to a natural child of a Vietnam veteran born with spina bifida, except spina bifida occulta, as a result of the exposure of one or both parents to Agent Orange (P.L. 104-204).
2. Payments to a natural child of a woman Vietnam veteran born with one or more birth defects resulting in permanent physical or mental disability (P.L. 106-419).
3. The employment related expense reimbursement received by a participant in an Employment and Training Program.

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4. Assistance payments received by households from the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program administered by the Department of Community Affairs.
5. Any payment received by foster parents from any agency intended to provide for the needs of foster children or adults placed in their home; or adoption assistance payments for an individual whose needs are not included in the filing unit.
6. Income for children who are in the custody of the Department, which is collected by Fee Collections and placed into a Fee Collections trust account on behalf of a child, is not counted. The funds which remain in the Fee Collections trust account are not counted as an asset. The income and assets are considered unavailable and are excluded in the eligibility determination.
7. Other trust accounts belonging to the child, or on behalf of the child, must be evaluated by the eligibility specialist for consideration in the Medicaid eligibility determination. Follow trust policy contained in the ACCESS Florida Program Policy Manual, beginning with passage 1620.0575.01, for evaluation of the trust account.
8. The value of the benefits under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, the value of USDA donated foods, the value of supplemental food assistance received under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, and the special food service program for children under the National School Lunch Act.
9. Any benefits received under Title VII, Nutrition Program for the Elderly of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended.
10. Assistance provided under Title II of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.
11. Any funds distributed per capita to or held in trust for members of any Indian tribe under Public Laws 92-254, 93-134 or 94-540 and initial purchases made with funds distributed under Public Law 93-134 or Public Law 98-64.
12. Any of the following distributions made to a household, individual native or descendant of a native, by a Native Corporation established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (Public Law 92-203 as amended):
 - a. Per capita payments of \$2,000 or less per year, including cash dividends on stock from a Native Corporation,

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- b. Stocks (including stock issued or distributed by a Native Corporation as a dividend or distribution on stock),
 - c. A partnership interest,
 - d. Land or interest in land (including land or interest in land received from a Native Corporation as a dividend or distribution on stock), or
 - e. An interest in a settlement trust.
13. Payments under the Experimental Housing Allowance Program under Section 23 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, under contracts fully executed prior to January 1, 1975.
14. Assistance provided to volunteers who participate in ACTION Programs funded under Public Law 93-113, including VISTA and other programs under Title I of that law.
15. Payments for supportive services or reimbursement for expenses made to volunteers serving as foster grandparents, senior health aides or senior companions, and to persons serving on the Service Corps of Retired Executives, Active Corps of Executives, and other programs under Titles II and III, Public Law 93-113, Section 419.
16. Federal income tax returns, including refundable tax credits (EITC and Child Tax Credit) and over-withholding (tax refunds) are excluded as income and assets in the month of receipt and will continue to be excluded as an asset for 12 months from the date of receipt.
17. Payments made pursuant to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, to individuals (or their survivors) who became ill or died as a result of exposure to radiation through nuclear testing or uranium mining.
18. Funds received by a member of the Passamaquoddy Indian Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, or the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians pursuant to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 will be disregarded as income and assets in the determination of eligibility for benefits under the TCA Programs.
19. Standard filing units receiving Temporary Cash Assistance which have funds paid to a homeless shelter either by themselves or on their behalf, will have such funds excluded as a countable asset, providing that such moneys are to enable the family to pay deposits or other cost associated with moving into a stable shelter arrangement.

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- 20. Payments received under the Crime Victim Compensation Program that offers compensation to victims and survivors of victims of criminal violence, including drunk driving and domestic violence. (P.L. 103-322).
- 21. Payments made to individuals under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP) Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-398).
- 22. Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts which are established for individuals who meet the Social Security Administration's definition of disabled or the individual has a certification of disability from their physician prior to age 26. Verification must be requested if:
 - a. questionable, or
 - b. value of ABLE account exceeds \$100,000, or
 - c. value of combined assets exceeds the program limit.
- 23. Payments made to individuals because of their status as victims of Nazi persecution (P.L. 103-286)

1810.0918 German/Japanese/Aleutian Payments (FS)

German reparation ~~and payments are included as income.~~ Japanese and Aleutian restitution payments are excluded as income.