

Title XVI Claims Specialist Basic Training Curriculum



Unit 7

Module 07

Deeming and Computations

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION,
Office of Human Resources, Office of Learning
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LESSON PLAN

Module Objectives

At the completion of this chapter, the trainees will be able to:

1. Determine if parent-to-child deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies. Request the deeming screen and key in the data for an online deeming computation. Know how to deem income and parental resources to children.
2. Determine if spouse-to-spouse deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies and perform the online computation. Know how to deem resources from spouse to spouse.
3. Determine to whom deeming applies for cases involving a multiple deeming situation and outline the proper development. Know how to deem resources in multiple deeming situations.
4. List the groups of aliens who are sponsored into the U.S. and determine if sponsor to alien deeming applies. Determine the resources to deem in sponsor to alien situations.
5. Determine the rules behind deeming waiver cases.
6. Determine if any exclusions of income subject to deeming apply and the basis for exclusion. Cite exclusions from the online deeming process.
7. Activate deeming computations in the SSI Claims System.

Length of Module

10 hours

Forms

- | | |
|----------|--|
| SSA-8015 | Monthly Deeming Worksheet (spouse to spouse) |
| SSA-8016 | Monthly Deeming Worksheet (parent to child) |

SSA-1719B SSI Posteligibility Data Input

Helpful Resources

[Title XVI Resource Kit \(National\)](#)

- [Deeming Charts](#) (under “Systems Information”)

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

In determining SSI eligibility and payment amount, a special income computation procedure may apply when the claimant is an eligible individual living with his or her ineligible spouse, a child living with his or her ineligible parent(s), or an alien who has a sponsor. This procedure is called deeming of income. The amount of "deemed income" that results is attributed to the SSI claimant as unearned income, whether or not the income is actually available to the claimant.

The basis for deeming lies in the presumption that individuals related as husband and wife or parent and child (natural or adopted) generally have a responsibility for each other and share income and resources when they are living together. Similarly, a sponsor of an alien has a responsibility to meet the needs of the alien.

While SSI applicants and recipients will, in most cases, have very limited income and resources, their spouses, parents, or sponsors may have substantial income and resources that must be considered in determining SSI eligibility. It is important that you be familiar with the applicable types of deeming and be able to use this knowledge in interviewing and processing SSI claims and redeterminations.

Usually, the SSI system completes all deeming, eligibility, and payment computations (automated deeming). When the automated system is unable to accurately determine the correct amount of deemed income, an online deeming computation may be performed. Essentially, this special deeming computation system performs mathematical deeming calculations. From these calculations, the correct systems input for a particular deeming case can be determined. The online interactive deeming computation system is separate from the automated Supplemental Security Income (SSI) system. A thorough knowledge of the capabilities of the automated and online deeming systems will save much time and effort, especially when it is necessary to determine deemed income over a period of several months.

DEEMING – GENERAL

Definitions and Concept of Deeming

[SI 01310.001](#), [SI 01330.001](#)

The term “deeming” identifies the process of considering another person's income and resources to be available to meet an SSI claimant's (or recipient's) basic needs of food and shelter.

A portion of an ineligible parent's or spouse's income is used to provide for the ineligible parent's/spouse's own living expenses and those of any ineligible child(ren) living in the household. Based on this consideration, we apply allocations for:

- Ineligible parents; and
- Ineligible children in the household; and
- Sponsors of SSI eligible aliens; and
- Dependents of sponsors of SSI eligible aliens.

Application of these allocations reduces the amount of income available for deeming.

Resources from the following are deemed for SSI purposes:

- Ineligible spouse
- Ineligible parent(s) or parent's spouse
- Essential person
- Any sponsor(s) or sponsor(s) spouse

We use several forms to capture information about a deemor's resources. These forms include the SSA-8010-BK, SSA-8001-BK, SSA-8202, SSA-8203-BK, or SSA-8000-BK. See [SI 01330.001](#) for instructions on when to use which form.

- If a parent of an eligible child is also receiving SSI, no form is required.
- For all types of deeming, there is no resource allocation for ineligible children in the household.

Deemor

A deemor is an individual whose income and resources are subject to deeming.

Parent

[SI 01310.145](#)

A parent whose income and resources are subject to deeming is one who lives in the same household with an eligible child and is:

- A natural parent of the child;
- An adoptive parent; or
- The spouse of the natural or adoptive parent (including a "holding out" spouse as defined in [SI 00501.152](#)).

Deeming applies from a parent to a child when they live together in the same household. However, if a natural or adoptive parent is deceased or is divorced from the stepparent, and the child is living with the stepparent, the stepparent is not considered a parent or the spouse of a parent of the eligible child for deeming purposes.

Child

[SI 01310.115](#)

A child is an individual who is neither married nor the head of a household and who is:

- Under age 18; or

- Under age 22 and a student regularly attending school or college or training that is designed to prepare him/her for a paying job ([SI 00501.010](#)).

Eligible Child

For deeming purposes, an eligible child is a natural or adopted child under age 18 who lives in a household with one or both parents, is not married, and is eligible for SSI.

Ineligible Child

An ineligible child, for deeming purposes, is a natural or adopted child of an eligible individual or the individual's spouse, or the natural or adopted child of a parent or the parent's spouse, who lives in the same household with the eligible individual, and is:

- Under age 18; or
- Under age 22 and a student regularly attending school or college, or training that is designed to prepare him/her for a paying job; and
- Not married.

Spouse

A spouse is someone legally married to and living with an eligible individual under the laws of the state where they make their permanent home. SSI also considers "holding out" spouses who live with an eligible individual as married. If both spouses are eligible, they are an SSI eligible couple, and deeming does not apply.

Ineligible Spouse

An ineligible spouse is not eligible for SSI. Deeming will apply.

Essential Person

[SI 01330.400](#)

Essential person deeming is a situation that you may not encounter often in the field office. To determine if someone meets the definition of “essential,” refer to [SI 00501.100](#).

Household

[SI 01310.140](#)

A household is a person, or group of persons sharing common living quarters and facilities, living in a residence under such domestic arrangements and circumstances as to create a single economic unit. A household does not exist if a person or group of persons does not have a residence. For deeming purposes, a household is comprised of:

- The eligible individual; and
- The spouse; or
- Any of the couple's children (or children of either member of the couple);

OR -

- The eligible child; and
- The eligible child's parent(s); and
- Other children of the parents.

OR -

- The eligible individual; and
- His or her essential person.

Temporary Absence

[SI 01310.165](#)

For the purposes of deeming, a temporary absence exists when an individual (eligible individual or child, or ineligible spouse, parent, or child) leaves the household but intends to, and does, return in the same month or the following month. If the absence is temporary, deeming continues to apply.

If the individual does not return the same month or the following month, the absence is not temporary, and there is a change in the deeming status.

If the absence is not temporary, the individual is not considered a member of the household for deeming purposes. Deeming will stop effective with the month following the month the change occurs. An example of this could be confinement to a public institution.

Child Away At School

A child who is away at school but returns home on some weekends, holidays, or vacations and is subject to parental control is considered temporarily absent from the parents' household, regardless of the duration of the absence. If a child is away at school and is not subject to parental control, he/she is not living in the parents' household.

A child who is away at school is one who is participating in an educational or vocational training program ([SI 00520.400](#)). This rule only applies to a child who is away at an educational or vocational training facility. This does not include facilities for the intellectually disabled or mentally ill. A child in one of these facilities is a resident of the facility ([SI 01310.165](#)).

Parental control is the authority of the parent(s) to make decisions on the child's behalf, whether or not the control is actually exercised.

Certain evidence may indicate that a child away at school is not subject to parental control. Such evidence includes an existing agreement, a court order, or the signed statements of the parents and the school authorities. In the absence of such evidence, assume that a child is subject to parental control.

Absent Military Deemor

An ineligible spouse or parent who is absent from a deeming household due solely to a duty assignment as a member of the Armed Forces on active duty will, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be considered to be living in the same household as the SSI claimant/ recipient for income and resources deeming purposes.

This policy applies regardless of how long the deemor is absent from the household due to a duty assignment and regardless of when such absence began.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Determine if parent-to-child deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies. Request the deeming screen and key in the data for an online deeming computation.

Deeming – Parents/Children Deeming Income

Income

When an eligible child resides in the same household with ineligible parent(s), the income of the parent(s) is considered in determining the individual's eligibility and payment amount.

The income of the ineligible parent(s), after applying the applicable deeming procedures, is considered to be the eligible individual's own unearned income. This is called "deemed income." This deemed income is added to the individual's earned and unearned income to determine the individual's eligibility for and amount of SSI payment.

Items Not Included in Deeming

[SI 01320.100](#)

Receipts that are not income to an eligible individual for SSI purposes are not income to an ineligible spouse, ineligible parent, or ineligible child. These include, but are not limited to:

Income Based on Need

[SI 01320.141](#)

Any public income maintenance (PIM) payment and any income used to compute such payment is excluded from the income of the ineligible

spouses and ineligible parents for the purposes of deeming. Since deeming will not apply, eligibility will be based on the child's income alone.

- **PIM Income** ([SI 01320.141](#)): Public Income Maintenance (PIM) payments include income such as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and needs-based Department of Veteran Affairs payments.

NOTE: This exclusion applies to the income of an ineligible spouse or parent used to compute a PIM payment regardless of who receives that payment. There is no deeming allocation for ineligible spouses, parents, or children who receive PIM payments.

Summary

The development of PIM payments can be summarized as follows:

- In situations where contacts are made with the PIM or TANF administering agency, document the file (RMKS or DROC) with the information obtained from the agency and retain it in the file.
- If the income of both parents is considered in the TANF or PIM determination, there is no income to be deemed.
- If one parent's income is not used in the PIM or TANF determination, deeming of that parent's income to the SSI eligible child applies. (The section on parent-to-child deeming computations will show how allocations are applied in the deeming process).

Deeming of Income from Ineligible Parent(s)

[SI 01320.500](#)

A child under age 18 who is applying for or receiving SSI, and who lives in the same household as his or her parent(s) and/or the spouse of a parent, is presumed to share in the parents' income.

Allocation

[SI 01310.110](#)

An allocation is an amount deducted from income subject to deeming that is considered to be set aside for the support of certain individuals other than the eligible individual.

Parent's Earned and Unearned Income:

The amount of the parents' deemable earned and unearned income is determined by first applying the appropriate exclusions in [SI 01320.100](#) "Items Not Included in Deeming – General," and then subtracting any allocations that apply.

Allocation for Ineligible Children:

An allocation is deducted for each ineligible child who lives in the household.

The amount of the allocation is the difference between the couple Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) and the individual FBR.

EXCEPTION: There is no ineligible child allocation for any child who receives public income maintenance (PIM) payments.

Each ineligible child's allocation is reduced by the amount of his/her own income.

The allocations for ineligible children are deducted from the ineligible parents' unearned income first. If the ineligible parents' unearned income does not completely offset the allocation(s), the remainder of the allocation is deducted from the ineligible parents' earned income.

Living Allowance for Ineligible Parent(s):

The parental living allowance is:

- The monthly FBR for a couple if both parents (or one parent and his/her spouse) live in the household; or

- The monthly FBR for an individual if only one parent lives in the household.

Procedure for Deeming Parental Income

1. Subtract the allocation for ineligible children and/or eligible aliens from the parental unearned income.
2. If the allocations are greater than the unearned income, or there is no unearned income, subtract the excess allocations from the parental earned income.
3. Subtract the \$20 general income exclusion from any remaining parental unearned income.
4. If the remaining unearned income is less than \$20, subtract the remainder of the \$20 from the parents' combined earned income.
5. Subtract \$65 from the remaining earned income.
6. Subtract one-half the remaining earned income from the result of Step 5.
7. Add the result of Step 3 to the result of Step 6.
8. Subtract the parental living allowance from the result of Step 7.
9. Divide the result of Step 8 by the number of eligible children in the deeming household.

Procedure for Determining a Child's Eligibility

1. Add the deemed income to the child's own unearned income.
2. Subtract all appropriate unearned income exclusions, including the \$20 general income exclusion, from the result of Step 1.
3. If the child has any earned income, subtract all appropriate earned income exclusions including any remainder of the general income exclusion.
4. Add the result of Step 2 to the result of Step 3.

5. Subtract the result of Step 4 from the FBR for an individual. If the result of Step 5 exceeds the FBR for an individual, the child is ineligible for Federal SSI payments.

If two or more eligible children live in the household, divide the income deemed from the parents equally among them. Add the deemed income to each child's own unearned income to determine eligibility.

Deeming – Change of Status - Parents/Children

[SI 01320.550](#)

Deeming of an ineligible parent's income to an eligible child can begin or end when there has been a change in the family's situation. Except where noted in this section, all changes in status are effective with the month following the month the change occurs.

Ineligible Parent Dies

If an ineligible parent dies, deeming stops from that parent for purposes of determining the child's eligibility for SSI beginning with the month following the month of death. Determine the payment amount beginning with the month following the month of death using only the eligible child's own income in the budget month. Determine the budget month under regular RMA rules.

If the child lives with two ineligible parents and one dies, deeming continues from the surviving parent to determine eligibility and payment. (Use only the surviving parent's income from the budget month, and give one parental allocation.)

If the child lives with a natural or adoptive parent and a stepparent, and the natural or adoptive parent dies, we do not deem from the surviving stepparent. Use only the child's income and resources to determine eligibility beginning with the month after the month of the natural or adoptive parent's death. If the child remains eligible, do not continue to use the natural or adoptive parent's income from the budget month to determine the payment amount.

Ineligible Parent and Eligible Child No Longer Live in the Same Household

If an ineligible parent and an eligible child no longer live in the same household, deeming of that parent's income stops effective the month after the month the parent (or child) leaves the household, for purposes of determining eligibility.

If the child remains eligible for SSI, determine the payment amount using income (including any deemed income) in the budget month.

Ineligible Parent and Eligible Child Begin Living in the Same Household

If an eligible child begins living in the same household as an ineligible parent (e.g., a newborn child comes home from a hospital), the parent's income is deemed to the child for purposes of determining eligibility beginning the month after the month they begin living together. If the child remains eligible for SSI, determine the payment amount using income in the budget month.

Eligible Child Moves into a Medical Treatment Facility

If an eligible child moves into a medical treatment facility and the \$30 payment limit applies, deeming stops for purposes of determining eligibility effective with the first month for which the \$30 payment limit applies.

Determine the payment amount beginning with the first month for which the \$30 payment limit applies using only the child's own countable income in the budget month. Exclude any deemed income from the parent(s) in the budget month.

Child Attains Age 18

Deeming stops effective the month following the month an individual attains age 18. An individual attains age 18 on the day preceding the 18th anniversary of his or her birth.

Determine eligibility using only the individual's own income. Determine the payment amount beginning with the month following the month an individual attains age 18 using only the individual's own countable income

in the budget month. Do not use deemed income from the budget month in the payment computation.

The individual's income for the current (computation) month and subsequent months must include any income in the form of cash or in-kind support and maintenance (ISM) provided by the parents.

Adopted Child Resumes Living with a Former Parent

Deeming does not resume if an adopted eligible child returns to the household where a former parent resides. Once a child has been legally adopted, the parental relationship with the former parent(s) is terminated in all respects and the new parents assume all legal responsibility for the child. Thus, the presence of a former parent in the household with the eligible child does not re-establish the parent/child deeming relationship. Deeming may apply from the adoptive parents if they continue to live with the eligible child.

Ineligible Parent Becomes Eligible (Noted Exception)

If an ineligible parent becomes eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments, deeming from that parent to an eligible child to determine the child's eligibility for SSI payments stops beginning with the month the parent becomes eligible. However, to determine the child's SSI payment amount, follow regular retrospective monthly accounting (RMA) rules and include any deemed income in the budget month. In this situation, deeming stops in the parent's SSI eligibility month (E02 month). The newly eligible parent is considered eligible for a public income maintenance (PIM) payment even though no payment is made in the E02 month.

Eligible Parent Becomes Ineligible (Noted Exception)

If an eligible parent becomes ineligible, deeming of the parent's income begins with the first month of the parent's ineligibility to determine whether the child continues to be eligible for SSI. If the child is eligible, determine the payment amount under regular RMA rules, using countable income in the budget month.

Ineligible Child Allocation Calculation and Location

[SI 01310.110](#); [SI 01320.500](#)

The net amount of the ineligible child's allocation is shown on the eligible child's portion of the record in the UMIH segment as type "I" income. The automated system will deduct the net amount of the IC allocation from the parent(s) income during the deeming process.

The net ineligible child allocation is determined as follows:

1. Multiply the number of ineligible children in the household who have no income for the computation month by the ineligible child allocation rate for the computation month.
2. Subtract the income for each ineligible child in the household with income from the applicable ineligible child allocation to determine the allocation for that child. Add the resulting allocations for ineligible children with income.
3. Add the results of steps 1 and 2 to determine the total ineligible child allocation to be shown as type I unearned income for the computation month.

EXAMPLE:

There are three ineligible children in the household. Two of them have no income. One child has income of \$120 per month. The ineligible child allocation rate is \$375.00 per month for 2018. The net ineligible child allocation is determined as follows:

STEP 1: Multiply the number of ineligible children with no income by the ineligible child allocation rate:

$$2 \times \$375 = \$750$$

STEP 2: Subtract the income of the ineligible child with income from the ineligible child allocation rate:

$$\$375 - \$120 = \$255$$

STEP 3: Add the results of steps 1 and 2: $\$750 + \$255 = \$1005$. Cases in SSI Claims System, the system automatically computes the allocation based upon the composition of the claim and the

income of any ineligible children. The results will be posted to the UMIH segment of the SSR as type "I" income:

I MMY MMY 100500 C 0INC02INC01

The 11 digit ID indicates the number of ineligible children with no income followed by the number of ineligible children with income. In this example the ID indicates there are 3 ineligible children; 2 have no income (0INC02) and 1 has income (INC01).

Cases not in SSI Claims System, once the ineligible child allocation is determined, it must be posted to the UM field. In the above example, the allocation of \$1005 is posted as follows:

UM I1 MMY MMY 100500 C 0INC02INC01

Rates for Ineligible Child Allocations for the Past Five Years

[SI 02001.020](#)

01/14 to 12/14	\$361.00
01/15 to 12/16	\$367.00
01/17 to 12/17	\$368.00
01/18 to 12/18	\$375.00
01/19 continuing	\$386.00

NOTE: The rate for the ineligible child/eligible alien allocation is always the difference between the individual's FBR and the couple's FBR. In sponsor-to-alien deeming, the allocation rate for the sponsor's dependents is one-half the individual's FBR ([SI 01310.110](#)).

Type V Unearned Income Entry

[SM 01005.195](#)

The following conditions may require a manual deeming computation and type V unearned income entry to achieve the correct payment.

- Sponsor-to-Alien Deeming
- Multiple Eligible Children
- Spouse-to-Spouse-to Child Deeming (multiple deeming situations are covered in Objective 5 of this module)
- Earned Income Work Exclusion (IRWE) Applies for Ineligible Spouse or Parent
- Deemor Receives Private Income Based on Need
- Court Ordered Support Payment for Deemor
- Ineligible Parent has Blind Work Expenses (BWE) or a Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)
- Undocumented Deemor Does Not Have an SSN

Deeming Codes Set by System

[SM 01601.790](#)

Deeming codes are set by the system during the eligibility computation. These codes are posted to the DMC (Deeming Code) field in the CMPH (Computation History) segment. Below is a complete list of the deeming codes

- **C** – Eligibility computation based on adjusted couple Federal Countable Income (FCI) because it exceeded the individual's own FCI
- **D** – Eligibility computation based on eligible individual's FCI only (ineligible spouse's net income exceeded FBR difference but the adjusted couple FCI did not exceed individual's FCI)
- **I** – Eligibility computation based solely on the income for the eligible individual (ineligible's income excluded from deeming or insufficient to deem)
- **P** – Parental deeming based on 1977 deeming rules (deemed amount greater than zero)
- **S** – Simple deeming

- **T** – Ineligible children in family
- **U** – Multiple eligible in family
- **V** – Type V income transmitted, or if ineligible spouse involved, the automated deeming computation was suppressed in the eligibility computation for the month in which the type V is posted. The type V income for the month was included as unearned income for the eligible individual.

State/SSI Welfare Indicator

[SM 01601.790](#)

This indicator is posted in the W (Welfare Indicator) field of the CMPH segment. The system sets a state/SSI welfare indicator to identify income excluded from deeming computation (for example, UM type E income (VA pension based on need) or UM type F income (TANF or other needs-based assistance) on the ineligible parent(s) portion of the record). The indicator will be set as follows:

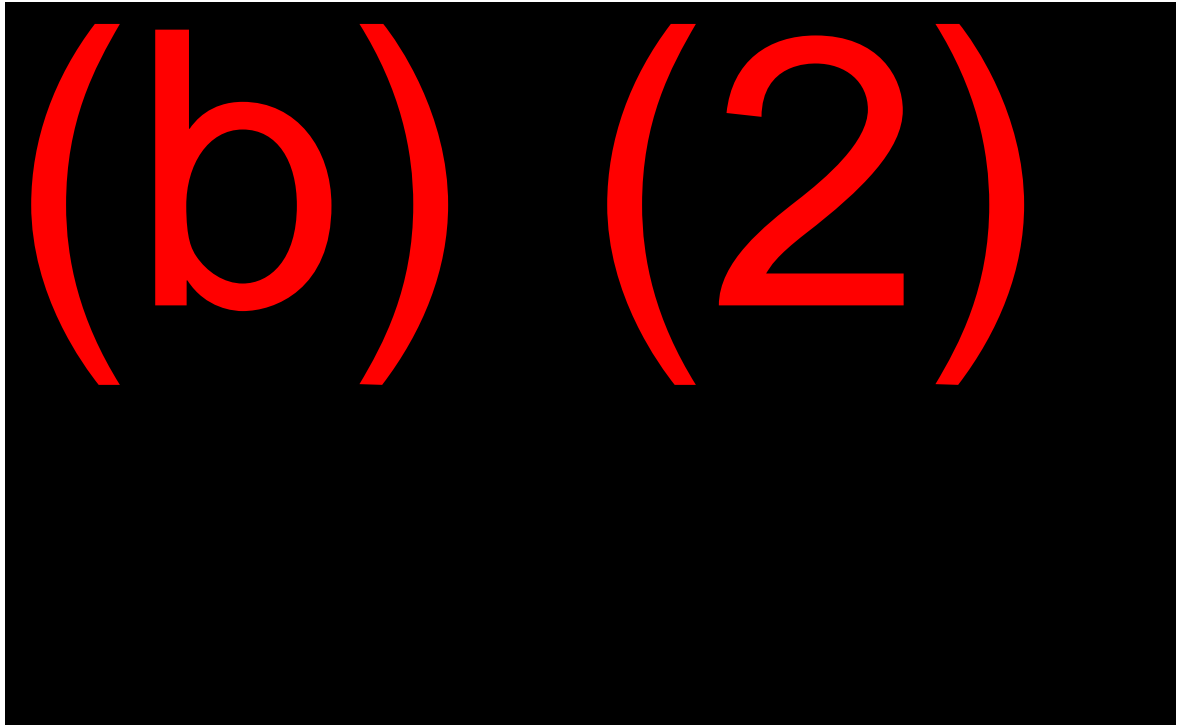
1. Ineligible spouse, parent/father or essential person No. 1, as applicable, is receiving income based on need.
2. Parent/Mother or essential person No. 2, as applicable, is receiving income based on need.
3. Both ineligibles on the record are receiving income based on need.
4. Same as code 1 except income based on need is SSI.
5. Same as code 2 except income based on need is SSI.
6. Same as code 3 except income based on need is SSI.
7. The eligibility determination for the month was based on the eligible individual's Federal Countable Income (FCI) only, but a payment computation for a later month used the adjusted couple FCI.
8. The eligibility determination for the month was based on the adjusted couple FCI, but a payment computation for a later month used the individual FCI only.

NOTE: If there are two parents in the household and one does not receive IBON, the system will apply the one-parent allocation in determining the deeming income amount. If both ineligible parents are receiving income based on need, deeming does not apply and DMC code of I is set.

Parent-to-Child Online Deeming Procedures

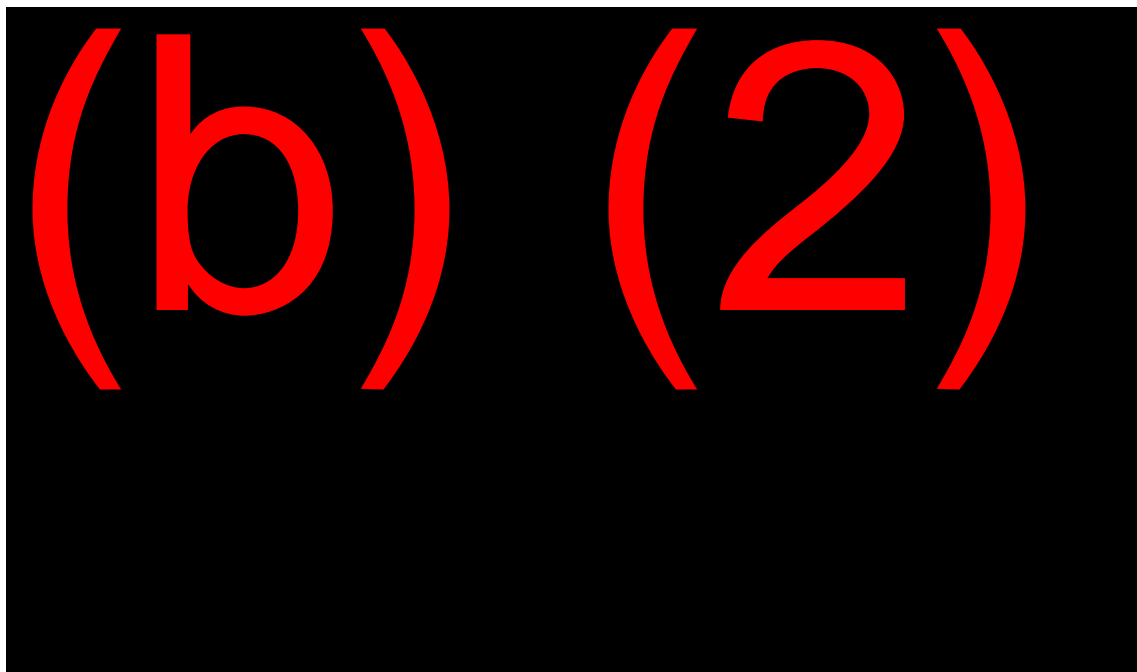
[MS 02305.001](#)

Below is a facsimile of the SSA MAIN MENU screen.



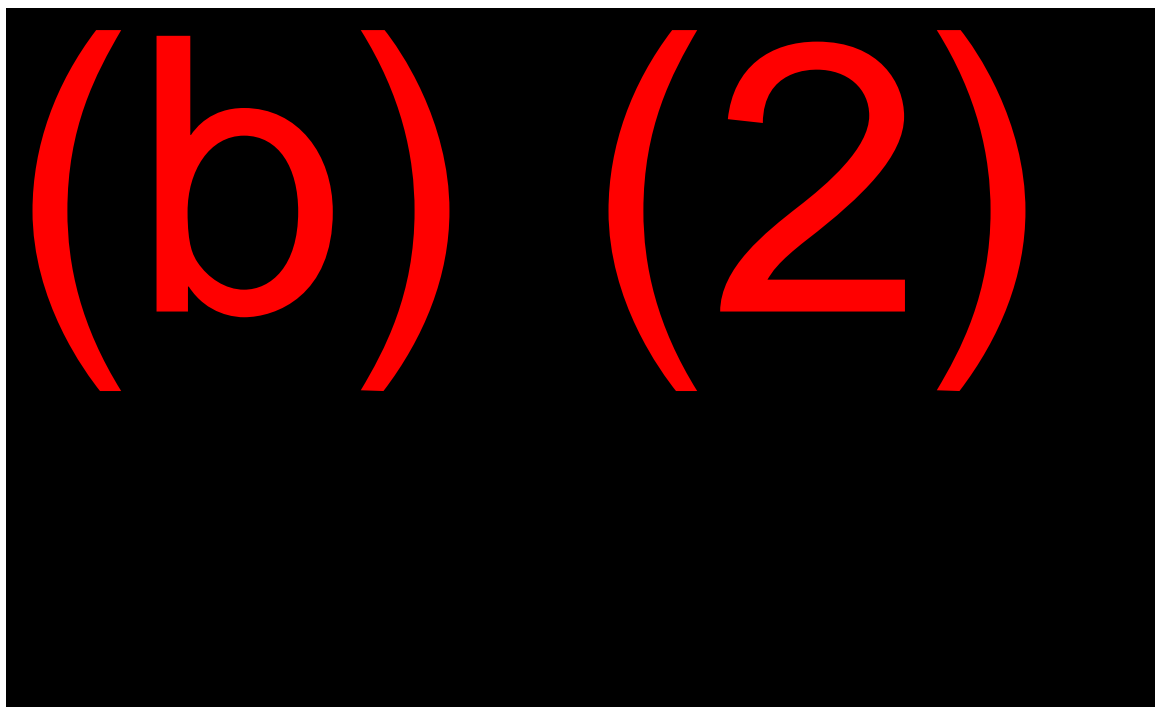
Below is a facsimile of the Title XVI Benefit Computation Menu.

[MS 02301.002](#)



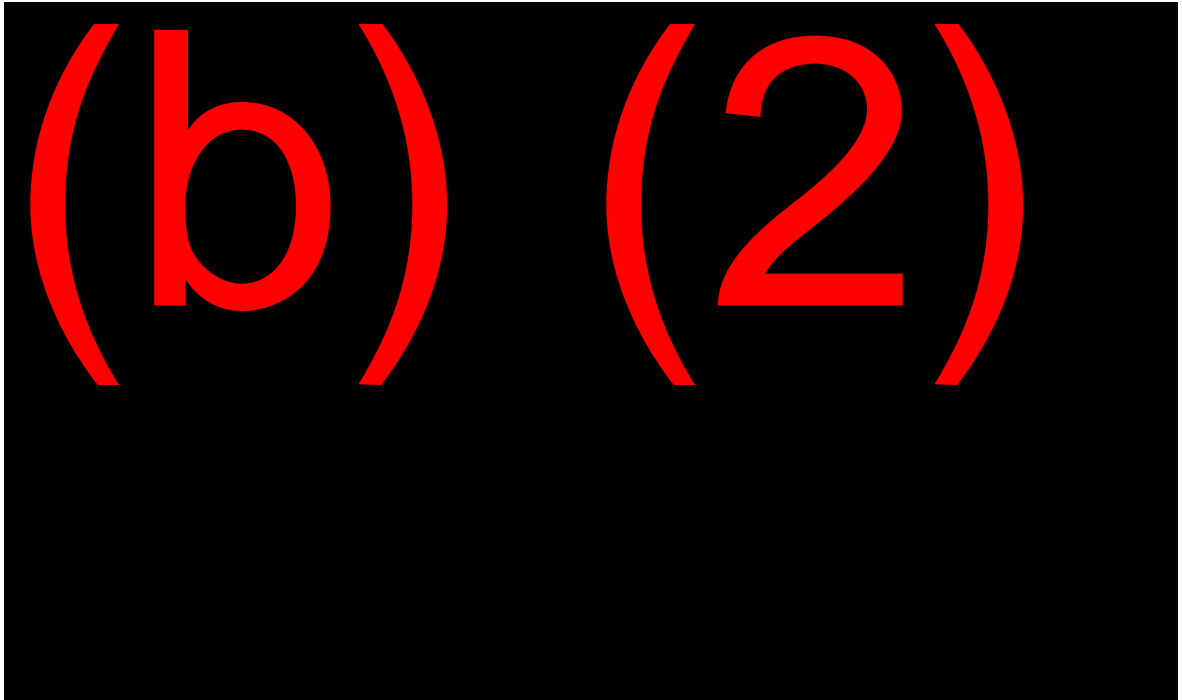
Below is a facsimile of the Computation RMA Child Eligibility (CRCE) screen (Page 1).

[MS 02305.002](#)



Below is a facsimile of the Computation RMA Child Eligibility (CRCE) screen (Page 2).

[MS 02305.003](#)



The online process is a method of calculating deemed income.

Obtaining the CRCE Screen

From the Main SSA Menu, select #8 – Title XVI/Interactive Comps. Choose Program #4 to retrieve the Computation RMA Child Eligibility screen. After all pertinent data is input; the program runs the computation and indicates whether or not the child would be eligible for benefits.

Completion of the CRCE Screen

Input the individual's SSN, the unit code, and the name of the individual.

The computation date field determines what allocation rates are used. The computation period is the month for which eligibility is being determined. The first day of the month should be entered unless the benefit is to be prorated. The computation date should be input in MMDDYY format.

Type the appropriate code to show the child's Federal living arrangement for the computation date: A or C or B (Note: FLA D is not a household consideration for deeming).

IND SP Field

If the child is eligible for an optional State supplement payment, enter the amount of the payment; if not, go to the next field.

NOTE: Lead zeros are not required whenever income amounts are input on this screen. The system will pre-fill the screen. Income is entered using \$\$\$\$\$.¢¢ format.

IND EN Field

The IND EN field is used to record the sum of wages and/or self-employment for the child. If the child has earned income, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field. If the child is a student, the student earned income exclusion must be deducted before an entry is made in this field.

IND UM Field

The IND UM field is used to record unearned income the child may have. DO NOT include any income based on need or ISM subject to the PMV. If the child has unearned income, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field.

NOTE: If an eligible child receives child support, you must apply the one-third reduction before listing it as unearned income.

IND NBA Field

The IND NBA is used to record any countable needs-based assistance (TANF, AFDC, VA pension, etc.) If the child receives any needs-based assistance, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field.

IND ISM Field

The IND ISM field is used to record any in-kind support and maintenance (ISM) subject to the presumed maximum value (PMV) rule. If the child has ISM, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field. DO NOT enter the VTR.

Parents in Household Field

The possible entries in the Parents in Household field are 1 or 2. If the child lives with only one parent, enter 1; if the child lives with two parents, enter 2; if the child does not live with a parent, press ENTER.

NOTE: If the child does not live with a parent, no deeming applies. However, the screen may be used to determine eligibility for the child based only on the income of the child.

MTH EN Field

If the child's mother is in the household, enter the amount of her earned income in the MTH EN field. If mother does not have any earned income, go to the next field. If the child's mother is not in the household, go to the FTH EN field. If the mother is a student under age 22, the student earned income exclusion must be deducted before an entry is made in this field.

MTH UM Field

The MTH UM field is used to record any unearned income the child's mother may have. DO NOT include any income based on need. If the mother receives unearned income, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field.

MTH NBA Field

The MTH NBA field is used to record any countable needs-based assistance the child's mother may have (TANF, AFDC, VA pension, etc.) If mother receives income based on need, enter the amount; if not, go to the next field.

MTH IS NEED Field

The MTH IS NEED field is used to record if the mother receives any needs-based assistance or if the mother's income is being used to determine someone else's needs-based assistance payment. If yes to either, type Y. If no to both, go to next field.

FTH EN Field

If the child's father is in the household, enter the amount of his earned income in the FTH EN field; if father has no earned income, go to the next field. If the father is not in the household, go to the INELIG CHLD field. If the father is a student under age 22, the student earned income exclusion must be deducted before an entry is made in this field.

Refer to [MS 02305.002](#) for instructions on FTH UM, FTH NBA and FTH IS NEED.

INELIG CHLD Field

The INELIG CHLD field is used to record the number of ineligible children in the household. Enter the number of ineligible children using two digits (01-20), and then go to the next field. If there are no ineligible children in the household, press ENTER.

NOTE: The entry on the screen states, "DO NOT enter children with AFDC, NBA or Income over Child Allocation."

INELIG CHLD/INC Field

The INELIG CHLD/INC field is used to record the number of ineligible children who have income. If none of the children have income, press ENTER. If any of the ineligible children have income, enter the number (01-20), then go to the next field.

INCOME OF CHILDREN Field

The INCOME OF CHILDREN field is used to record the total amount of income of the ineligible children if they do not have income over their allocation. We do not include in the number of ineligible children any child with income over the ineligible child allocation or any child who receives PIM or NBA. Enter the total amount of the income, and then press ENTER. If any ineligible child is a full time student, the student earned income exclusion must be deducted from any earned income before an entry is made in this field.

Systems Entries for Automated Parent-to-Child Deeming

[MS 04501.001](#); [SM 01305.330](#)

The automated system can determine the correct payment amount for most parent-to-child deeming cases. This process is called FULLY AUTOMATED PARENT-TO-CHILD DEEMING.

The system requires specific income information to correctly determine eligibility and payment amount for parent-to-child deeming cases. The required information is:

- The eligible child's own income;
- The ineligible parent(s)' income; and
- The amount of the ineligible child's income (allocation).

In fully automated parent-to-child deeming, the presence of an ineligible parent's VA pension based on need (type E) or TANF income (type F) will cause the system not to deem any of the income from the parent.

For cases where automated deeming applies, no deemed income entry (type V unearned income) is required. The automated system takes into account the eligible child's income, the income of the ineligible parent(s), and the income of the ineligible children. The system will correctly determine the child's eligibility and payment amount.

When the system cannot deem correctly using the automated deeming process, a manual deemed income entry (type V unearned income) is necessary to suppress automated deeming. We will discuss these cases later in the module.

Deeming – Parents/Children Deeming Resources

[SI 01330.001](#)

We combine the child resources and the resources of any living-with parent or spouse of parent and then apply all applicable resources exclusions. The result is the child's total countable resources. The child's countable resources are compared with the resource limit of an individual with no spouse to determine if the child is eligible for SSI ([SI 01330.260](#)).

- If the child has one parent in the household, we compare the resources of that one parent to the resource limit of an individual (\$2,000). Any resources exceeding that limit are deemed to the child.
- If two parents live in the household (or one parent and the spouse of that parent), we compare their resources to the couple resource limit (\$3,000). Any resources exceeding that limit are deemed to the child.
- The current resource limit for a child is \$2,000.
- If there is more than one SSI eligible child under 18 in the household, equally divide the value of deemed resources among those children.
- Parents or spouses of parents living with a child receive the same resource exclusions as an eligible individual. See [SI 01110.210](#) for a list of excluded resources.

EXAMPLE:

[SI 01330.280](#)

Mr. and Mrs. Scott live together with their son, Nathan, who is age 16. Nathan has no resources of his own. Mr. and Mrs. Scott applied for SSI on behalf of Nathan in January 2018. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have \$4,000 in their savings account.

\$4,000	- parent's countable resources subject to deeming
<u>-3,000</u>	- couple resource limit
\$1,000	- resource value deemed
<u>+0</u>	- child's resources
\$1,000	- child's countable resources

Since Nathan's countable resources do not exceed the resource limit for an individual (\$2,000), Nathan meets the resource eligibility requirement.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Determine if spouse-to-spouse deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies and perform the online computation.

Deeming Income from an Ineligible Spouse

Income

[SI 01320.400](#)

Spouse-to-spouse deeming of income can be involved in the eligibility or the payment determination, or both, for an eligible individual who lives with an ineligible spouse. For spouse-to-spouse deeming to apply, the SSI applicant/ recipient must be eligible based on his/her own income. To deem income, determine the amount of the ineligible spouse's earned and unearned income, applying the appropriate exclusions in [SI 01320.100](#).

Determining Eligibility

When an ineligible spouse lives in the same household as the eligible individual, the following deeming rules are applied in this order:

1. The amount of the ineligible spouse's earned and unearned income is determined in the computation month.
2. An allocation for each ineligible child who lives in the household is deducted.
3. An allocation is also deducted for eligible aliens who have been sponsored by and who have income deemed from the ineligible spouse.
4. If the remaining income (both earned and unearned) of the ineligible spouse is equal to or less than the difference between the

FBR for an eligible couple and the FBR for an eligible individual, there is no income to deem to the eligible individual. In this situation, the individual's own countable income is subtracted from the FBR for an individual to determine eligibility;

5. If the remaining income (both earned and unearned income) of the ineligible spouse is more than the difference between the FBR for an eligible couple and the FBR for an eligible individual, the eligible individual and the ineligible spouse are treated as an eligible couple.

NOTE: The \$20 general exclusion is not deducted from the eligible individual's income at this point.

6. The eligible individual and the ineligible spouse are treated as an eligible couple by:
 - Combining the remainder of the ineligible spouse's unearned income with the eligible individual's own unearned income, and the remainder of the ineligible spouse's earned income with the eligible individual's earned income;
 - Applying all appropriate income exclusions, including the first \$20 of unearned income (if less than \$20 of unearned income in a month, any remaining portion of the \$20 exclusion is applied to any earned income in the month), \$65 of any earned income in a month, and one-half of remaining earned income in a month; and
 - Subtracting the couple's countable income from the FBR for an eligible couple.
7. If the couple's countable income is equal to or less than the FBR for an eligible couple in the computation month, the individual is eligible for SSI under the deeming rules.

Determining Payment

To determine the SSI payment amount, follow the procedure 1-7 above, using the ineligible spouse's income from the budget month. The countable income from the budget month is subtracted from the FBR for an eligible couple in the computation month.

Deeming – Change of Status - Couples

[SI 01320.450](#)

In general, deeming status depends on the individual's status as of the first moment of the month. Several events can change deeming status. The deeming status will depend on the status change.

The rules that apply when there is a change of status are:

Ineligible Spouse Becomes Eligible

If an ineligible spouse becomes eligible, treat the individual and spouse as an eligible couple effective with the month the spouse becomes eligible. Both eligibility and payment amount are based on the couple's income for that month. In the second month, the payment amount is based on the couple's income in the first month of eligibility.

Spouses Separate or Divorce

If an ineligible spouse and eligible spouse separate, or their marriage ends in divorce, cease using the ineligible spouse's income to determine eligibility effective with the month after the month of separation or divorce. Deemed income in the budget month continues to affect payment if deeming applied in the budget month.

Eligible Individual Begins Living with an Ineligible Spouse

If an eligible individual begins living with an ineligible spouse, begin deeming the ineligible spouse's income effective with the month after the month they begin living together. If eligibility continues, determine the payment amount according to regular RMA rules, using income from the budget month.

Ineligible Spouse Dies

If an ineligible spouse dies, deeming stops for purposes of determining eligibility effective with the month following the month of death. Determine the payment amount beginning with the month following the month of

death using only the eligible individual's own income from the budget month. Any income deemed from the ineligible spouse that month is excluded.

Eligible Individual Becomes Subject to \$30 Payment Limit

If an eligible individual moves into a medical care facility and the \$30 payment limit applies ([SI 00520.011](#)), deeming stops for purposes of determining eligibility effective with the first month for which the \$30 payment limit applies. Determine the payment amount beginning with the first month for which the \$30 payment limit applies using only the eligible individual's own income from the budget month. Any income deemed from the ineligible spouse that month is excluded.

Temporary Absence

The temporary absence rules for parent-to-child deeming also apply to spouse-to-spouse deeming. Temporary absences should be considered when determining deeming status and allocations for ineligible members of the household.

Items Not Included in Deeming

[SI 01320.100](#)

Receipts that are not income to an eligible individual for SSI purposes also are not income to an ineligible spouse, essential person, ineligible parent, sponsor of an alien, or ineligible child. These are the same rules used for parent-to-child.

Spouse-to-Spouse Online Deeming Procedures

Online Deeming Process

[MS 02303.001](#); [MS 02303.002](#)

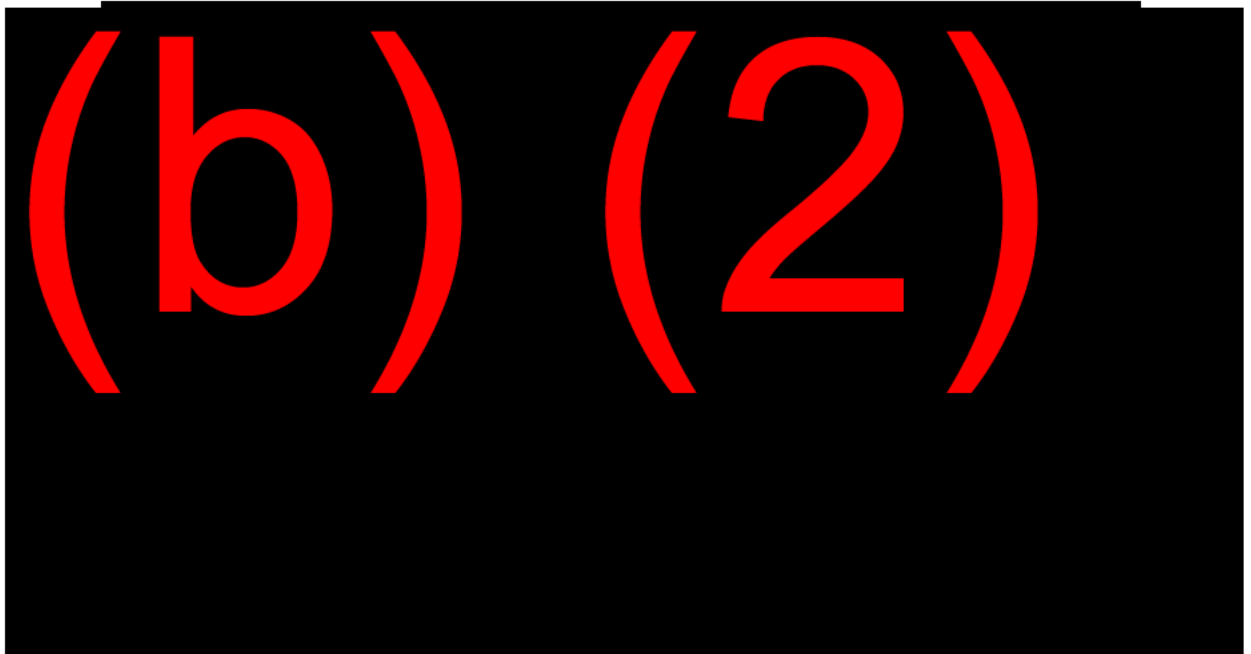
In most spouse-to-spouse cases, it may not be necessary to use the online deeming system. The automated deeming system can usually compute the spouse-to-spouse deeming. This is called automated deeming and must not be confused with online deeming. Automated deeming will be discussed later in this module.

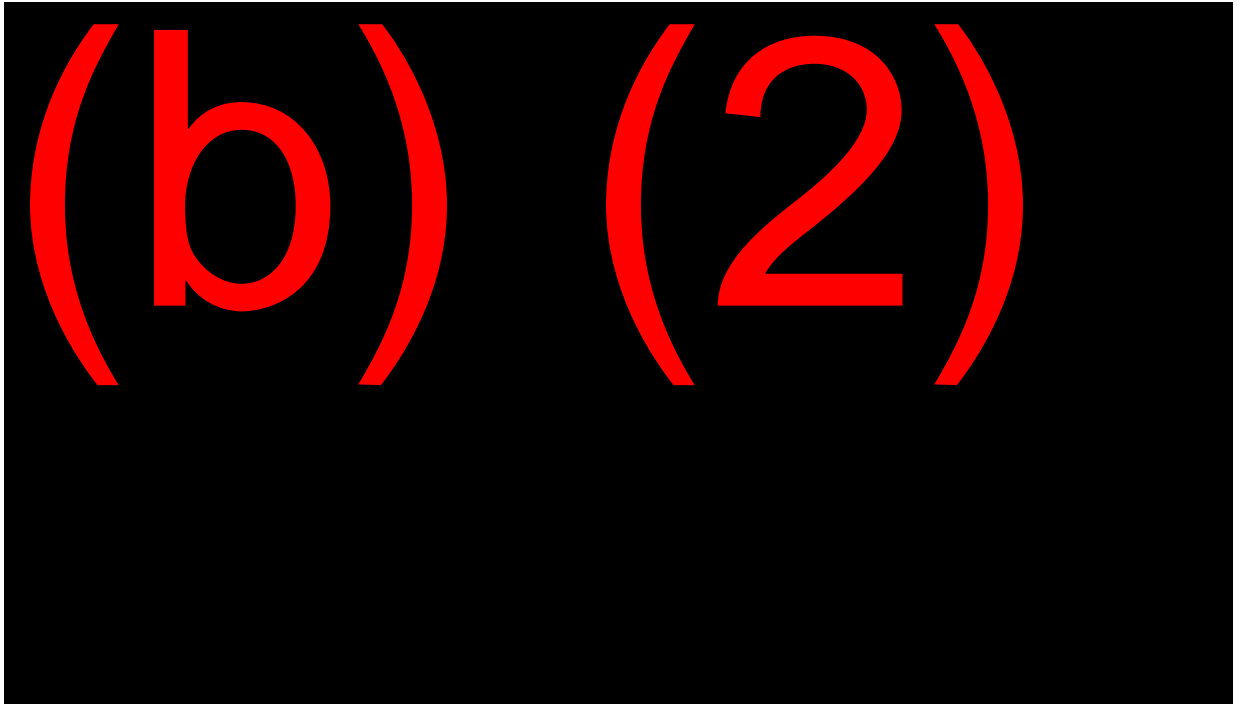
Completion of the Screen

Whenever a particular field is completed in the same manner as on the parent-to-child deeming screen (previously discussed), coding instructions will be omitted.

Below are facsimiles of the Computation RMA Individual Eligibility (CRIE) screens.

[MS 02303.002](#)



MS 02303.003**SPO EN Field**

The SPO EN field is used to record the spouse's earned income. If the spouse has no earned income, go to the next field. If the spouse is a student under age 22, the student earned income exclusion must be deducted before an entry is made in this field.

SPO UM Field

The SPO UM field is used to record the spouse's unearned income. If the spouse has no unearned income, go to the next field.

SPO NBA Field

The SPO NBA field is used to record any needs-based assistance that the spouse may have. Needs-based assistance is countable income based on need as defined in [SI 00830.170](#). It is not excluded state/local assistance based on need as defined in [SI 00830.175](#).

IS NEED Field

The IS NEED field is used to record whether the spouse received needs-based assistance or whether the spouse's income was used to determine someone else's needs-based assistance payment. If the answer to either is yes, input Y and go to the IND SP field. If no to both, go to the next field.

SPAC Field

The SPAC field is used if the spouse has any special income exclusions. If yes, type S. If no, go to the next field.

IND SP Field

The IND SP field is used to record if the individual is eligible for an optional State supplementation payment. If the individual is eligible, type the amount; if not, go the next field.

CPL SP Field

The CPL SP field should be completed using the following steps:

1. If the individual has a spouse, go to the next step; if not, go the MIL field.
2. If the computation date is later than 9/88, go to the last step; if not, go to step 3.
3. If the computation date is after 7/85 and the individual was a resident of California in that month, go to the last step; if neither, go to MIL field.
4. If the couple's rate for the state of residence equals or exceeds the individual rate, type in the couple's rate; if not, go to the next field.

MIL Field

The MIL field is used to record whether or not the individual is eligible for mandatory minimum state supplementary payments. If the individual is eligible, type the MIL amount; if not, go the INELIG CHLD field.

Systems Entries for Automated Spouse-to-Spouse Deeming

[SI 01320.400](#)

Effective April 1, 1982, the system can determine the correct payment amount for most spouse-to-spouse deeming cases. This process is called automated deeming.

The system takes into account the eligible individual's income, the income of the ineligible spouse, and the ineligible child allocation and correctly determines the individual's eligibility and payment amount.

When the system cannot deem correctly using the automated deeming process, a manual deemed income entry (type V) is necessary to suppress automated deeming. These cases will be discussed later.

Automated Deeming Process

In the automated spouse-to-spouse deeming process, the system needs three categories of information:

1. The eligible individual's income;
2. The ineligible spouse's income; and
3. The amount of the ineligible child allocation.

All of the eligible individual's income must be posted to his/her record. This will involve posting both earned and unearned income.

ISM – Individual Computation Involved

[SM 02101.070](#); [SI 00835.300](#)

- If type "H" UM amount for the eligible individual does not exceed the individual PMV, system uses type "H" UM amount posted for eligible individual.
- If type "H" UM amount for the eligible individual exceeds the individual PMV, system uses individual PMV.

ISM – Adjusted Couple Computation Involved

- If both members have type “H” greater than zero for same month and the total does not exceed the couple PMV, system uses the total amount of both members type “H” UM.
- If both members have type “H” greater than zero for same INVOLVED month and the total exceeds the couple PMV, system uses the couple PMV.
- If eligible member has type “H” UM but the ineligible member does not, system uses amount of type “H” UM posted for eligible member.
- If eligible member does not have type “H” UM but the ineligible member does, system ignores the type “H” UM for the ineligible member.

Income Based on Need

The ineligible spouse’s income based on need (IBON/PIM) or any income used to determine either that payment or the IBON payment of someone other than the eligible individual is not available for deeming. Since there will be no deeming, the eligibility of the individual will be based on his/her own income alone.

Blind Work Expenses

If the ineligible spouse has blind work expenses (type C earned income) or plan for self-support exclusions (type D earned income), the system will treat these amounts as exclusions before deeming any income to the eligible individual.

Ineligible Child’s Allocation

The net amount of the ineligible child’s allocation must be posted to the individual’s record. This amount is deducted from the ineligible spouse’s income during the automated deeming process. It appears on the SSR in the ineligible spouse’s UMIH segment as type I income with the same identifiers described in Objective 1.

Type V Entry

[SM 02101.010](#); [SM 01305.330](#)

Some spouse-to-spouse deeming cases may require a manual deeming computation and type V unearned income entry to derive the correct payment as automated deeming will not work. Cases with the following characteristics must be manually reviewed for accuracy and may be excluded from the spouse-to-spouse automated deeming process.

1. Sponsor-to-alien deeming in cases not in SSI Claims System
2. The ineligible spouse has impairment-related work expenses (IRWE)
3. The ineligible spouse has Private Income Based on Need
4. The ineligible spouse is undocumented and cannot be issued a SSN. In this case, establish the SSR without the deemor. Other requirements apply to correctly post manually deemed income to the SSR.
5. Spouse-to-spouse to child deeming that meet specific criteria

Deeming Resources from an Ineligible Spouse

[SI 01330.100](#); [SI 01330.110](#)

We count both the resources of the individual and the ineligible spouse to determine SSI eligibility, if the individual and ineligible spouse are living together. The values of the ineligible spouse's resources are subject to deeming whether or not the resources are available to the individual.

We combine the resources of the eligible individual and the living-with ineligible spouse and then apply all applicable resources exclusions. The result is the individual's total countable resources. We then compare the total countable resources with the resource limitation for a couple to determine if the individual applicant/recipient is eligible for SSI ([SI 01330.160](#)).

- The current resource limit for an individual with a spouse is \$3,000.

NOTE: A change in marital status will result in a charge of the resource limit (i.e., separation from spouse will reduce resource limit from \$3,000 to \$2,000 ([SI 01110.003](#))).

- Eligible individuals living with an ineligible spouse receive the same resource exclusions as eligible couples. See [SI 01110.210](#) for a list of excluded resources.

EXAMPLE:

[SI 01330.180](#)

Mr. and Mrs. Daley live together. Mr. Daley, who is age 65, applies for SSI payments on February 4, 2018. His wife is under age 65 and neither blind nor disabled. Mr. Daley has no resources of his own. However, Mrs. Daley has \$1,900 in a savings account and owns a vacant lot valued at \$500.

Countable Resources:

\$1,900	Mrs. Daley's savings account
+ <u>500</u>	Mrs. Daley's lot
\$2,400	couple's combined resources
<u>-0</u>	applicable exclusions
\$2,400	couple's countable resources

The resource computation follows:

\$2,400	couple's countable resources
<u>-3,000</u>	couple's resource limit
0	Mr. Daley meets the resource eligibility requirement

OBJECTIVE 3:

Determine to whom deeming applies for cases involving a multiple deeming situation and outline the proper development.

Multiple Deeming Situations

[SI 01320.600](#); [SI 01320.620](#)

Certain cases may require more than one deeming computation.

More Than One Eligible Child

If there is more than one eligible child in the household, the deemed income is shared equally, except:

- Do not deem more of the parent's income to an eligible child than is necessary to make the child ineligible when added to his/her own income.
- The excess deemed income derived from the computation in the first bullet is available for deeming equally to other eligible children in the household in addition to their equal share of the total deemed income. [SI 01320.630](#)

More Than One Eligible in the Household

Another common example of a multiple deeming situation is when an individual subject to spouse-to-spouse deeming and a child in the same household (who is subject to parent-to-child deeming) both file for SSI payments.

- In this case, first deem to the individual using regular spouse-to-spouse rules.

- If the individual (spouse) is still eligible, there is no deemable income to the child.
- If the individual is not eligible, all of the deemed income over the amount needed to reduce the individual's payment to zero is deemed to the eligible child.

Eligible Parent Has Excess Income

Deeming to the eligible child(ren) from a parent who is eligible except for excess income is a type of multiple deeming that requires a different computation procedure.

NOTE: This computation only applies when only one parent lives in the household and would be eligible for SSI except for his/her own income OR when two parents live in the household and both would be eligible for SSI (as a couple) except for their income. If one parent would be eligible and the other parent is ineligible, this computation does not apply.

The steps in the procedure are as follows:

1. Determine countable income for the individual (parent) just as if no eligible children were involved.
2. If payment can be made to the eligible parent, there is no income to deem to the child(ren). If the countable income of the individual exceeds the FBR plus any federally administered state supplement, then no payment is possible to the individual (parent).
3. Calculate the countable income in excess of what is required to reduce the individual's payment (FBR plus Federally administered state supplement) to zero. This excess is available for deeming to the child.
4. Subtract an allocation for each ineligible child from the amount available for deeming to the eligible child(ren). This allocation is the difference between the couple's FBR and the individual FBR minus any income of the ineligible child.
5. If this calculation results in zero or less, there is no income to be deemed. If the result is positive, there is deemable income.

Change in Status

When multiple deeming is involved, a change in status of one individual may require that some or all of the deeming be recomputed.

A disability denial of an applicant in a multiple deeming case will require a new computation.

EXAMPLE:

Betty Reardon and her son, Rick, both file for SSI disability. Mrs. Reardon and her husband have two ineligible children. Mr. Reardon is not aged, blind nor disabled.

- The initial computation is based on the regular spouse-to-spouse deeming computation (with two ineligible children) from Mr. Reardon to Betty Reardon. If Betty Reardon is ineligible based on spouse-to-spouse deeming, the excess income that was not used to reduce her SSI payment to zero is deemed to Rick (parent-to-child deeming).
- If Mrs. Reardon is found not to be disabled, a recomputation is required. The payment to Rick would now be based on just parent-to-child deeming.
- If Mrs. Reardon is found to be disabled, but Rick is denied for not being disabled, Mrs. Reardon's payment would have to be recalculated. It would be determined based on spouse-to-spouse deeming with three ineligible children (including Rick), and no parent-to-child deeming would apply.

When more than one child from the same household files for SSI, a recomputation is required if one is denied SSI based on not being disabled.

EXAMPLE:

Jack and Joe Peters are brothers filing for SSI disability benefits. They are both under 18 and have two sisters under 18 who are not disabled. Their mother is also in the household.

- The initial computation would be deeming from a parent to two children using allocations for two ineligible children. Jack and Joe would each be charged with 1/2 of the total deemed income from their mother.

- If Joe was denied (not disabled), the new computation would be parent-to-child deeming to Jack using allocations for three ineligible children.

Status Change Denial Based on Excess Income

A denial based only on excess income may not require a new deeming computation.

- If an eligible individual and his child apply for SSI and the individual is denied on the basis of income, only the income in excess of what is needed to reduce the individual's payment to zero is deemed to the eligible child. This computation was covered earlier in this segment.
- In this case, a disability determination for the individual would not be obtained and the original deeming computation would stand as long as the individual (parent) remained ineligible due to excess income.

Claims Development

Keep in mind the following points regarding claims taking and development:

- Applications should not be solicited for the purpose of obtaining a denial based on income. The parent(s) should be provided an explanation of deeming policies, including the effects of filing or not filing an application whenever the parent(s) allege being aged, blind or disabled.
- In multiple deeming situations, if denials other than disability are possible (e.g., resources, age, citizenship, etc.), those reasons for denial should receive priority over denial for income. This can have the effect of changing a "deeming to an eligible child from a parent who is eligible except for excess income" computation to a regular parent-to-child deeming computation.

Deeming of Resources in Multiple Deeming Situations

[SI 01330.300](#); [SI 01330.310](#)

Policy

When more than one eligible individual lives in the same household and there is a parent-child relationship, a multiple deeming situation may exist.

Procedure

You can determine if a Multiple Deeming situation exist by looking at if the parents do or do not meet the resource eligibility requirement.

- If the parent(s) meet the resource eligibility requirement, do not deem the value of any parental resources to the child
- If the parent(s) does not meet the resource eligibility requirements, follow the usual parent-to-child- resource deeming rules in [SI 01330.200](#) to determine the value of the deemed parental resources.

Deeming to Multiple Children Example:

[SI 01330.340](#)

John and Joan Goode, ages 15 and 16, are both disabled and live with their mother and stepfather. John's only resources are three U.S. savings bonds worth \$75 each. Joan's only resource is a \$500 savings account. The parents, Mr. and Mrs. Goode, own one automobile valued at \$3,000, a savings account with balance of \$2,500, cash on hand of \$200, and shares of stock valued at \$2,100. The parents file for SSI for both John and Joan on the same day.

The resource computation follows:

Parents' Excluded Resources:

One automobile used for transportation

Parents' Countable Resources:

\$ 2,500	Savings account
200	Cash on hand
<u>+ 2,100</u>	Shares of stock
\$ 4,800	Parents' total countable resources
<u>-3,000</u>	Couple resource limit
\$ 1,800	Value of deemed resources

(\$900 resource value deemed to each child)

John's Resources

\$ 500	Savings account
	Resource value
<u>+ 900</u>	deemed
\$1,400	Countable resources

Joan's Resources

\$ 225	Savings bonds
	Resource value
<u>+ 900</u>	deemed
\$1,125	Countable resources

Since neither John's nor Joan's countable resources exceed the individual resource limit (\$2,000), they both meet the resource eligibility requirement.

Spouse to Spouse to Child Deeming Example:

It is possible to have multiple deeming situations where both a parent and child are applying for or receiving SSI benefits.

Mr. and Mrs. White live together with their son, Paul, who is age 6. Mrs. White is disabled and Paul is blind. Paul has no resources. Mr. and Mrs. White own a joint savings account with \$1,000 balance and have \$200 cash on hand. Mrs. White applied for SSI for herself and for Paul on June 10, 2017.

Countable Resources:

\$1,000	Savings belonging to both Mr. and Mrs. White
<u>+ 200</u>	Cash on hand
\$1,200	Couple's countable resources

The resource computation follows:

\$1,200	Couple's countable resources
<u>-\$3,000</u>	Couple's resource limit
\$0.00	

Mrs. White meets the resource eligibility requirement. Therefore, there are no parental resources to deem to Paul, who also meets the resource eligibility requirement.

OBJECTIVE 4:

List the groups of aliens who are sponsored into the U.S. and determine if sponsor-to-alien deeming applies.

Sponsor-to-Alien Deeming

[SI 01320.900](#); [SI 01320.950](#)

Definitions

For sponsor to alien deeming, an alien is defined as an individual who has been lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S. (LAPR).

A sponsor is defined as someone who meets the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS, formerly known as BCIS and INS) criteria for a sponsor and who is eligible to or has executed an affidavit of support or similar agreement under Section 213(a) of the INA.

Background

Some aliens seeking admission as immigrants into the U.S. are required to provide assurances under USCIS legislation that they will not become a "public charge." Aliens can establish this by having a sponsor pledge to support them.

Since October 1980, the law has required that a sponsor's income and resources (and those of the sponsor's living-with spouse) be considered when determining an alien's SSI eligibility and payment amount.

From January 1, 1994 through September 30, 1996, the following aliens were subject to sponsor-to-alien deeming for five years (60 months) following their dates of lawful admission to the U.S. Effective October 1, 1996, the sponsor-to-alien deeming period is three years (36 months)

following the date of lawful admission to the U.S. in all cases. (See [SI 00502.240.](#))

Congress enacted the Welfare Reform Law (Public Law 104-193) on August 22, 1996, the Balanced Budget Act in August 1997, and the Non-Citizen Benefit Clarification and Other Technical Amendments Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-306). With the passage of these laws, the categories of aliens who remain eligible for SSI benefits changed. New factors of entitlement (qualifying quarters and length of stay in the U.S.) reduced the situations where sponsor-to-alien deeming applies.

Basic Categories

There are three basic categories of aliens who are always sponsored into the U.S. They are:

1. Aliens admitted under Family Unity provisions, Sec. 203(a), 203(d) or 216(a) of the INA, which are:
 - Unmarried sons or daughters of U.S. citizens, their children, spouses, and children of alien residents;
 - Married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, their spouses, and children;
 - Brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens.
2. Aliens admitted under Immediate Relative provisions, Sec. 201(b) and 216(a) of the INA, who are:
 - Spouses and children of U.S. citizens;
 - Orphans adopted abroad by U.S. citizens;
 - Parents of U.S. citizens at least 21 years of age.
3. Aliens admitted to the U.S. under Employment Based provisions under Sec. 203(b) and 203(d) of the INA are sponsored, only if a relative of the intending immigrant either:
 - Filed the employment-based immigrant petition; or

- Has a significant ownership interest (more than 5 percent) in the entity that filed the immigrant visa petition on behalf of the intending immigrant.

These categories of employment-based immigrants comprise:

- Aliens with extraordinary ability, outstanding professors and researchers, multinational executives or managers, their spouses and children.
- Professionals holding advanced degrees or persons with exceptional abilities, skilled workers, their spouses and children, and other workers.

For information on sponsor-to-non-citizen deeming requirements and computations, refer to [SI 01320.900](#).

OBJECTIVE 5:

Determine the rules behind deeming waiver cases.

Deeming Waiver Provision**General****[SI 01310.201](#); [SI 01310.203](#)**

Do not deem parental income and resources to any child under age 18 who:

- a. Is disabled; and
- b. Received one or more months of SSI benefits limited to the \$30 reduced benefit rate (plus any Federally-administered optional state supplementary (OSS) payment) while in a medical treatment facility; and
- c. Is eligible for Medicaid under a state home care plan; and
- d. Would be ineligible for SSI benefits because of deemed parental income or resources, or would be eligible for less SSI than he/she would receive (usually \$30 plus any applicable OSS payment) under this provision.

The SSI benefits referenced in item b above are also known as the "personal needs allowance." Children meeting these criteria are eligible to receive up to \$30 per month plus any applicable federally administrated OSS payment that they would receive if hospitalized. Income and resources of the parent(s) are not deemed to the child(ren).

If all criteria are met except that the child qualifies for a small SSI payment, the child may receive a state supplement, if applicable, if it is higher than the benefit computed under regular deeming rules.

For the purposes of the deeming waiver, the state home care plan must meet the definition stated in [SI 01310.207](#). For development and documentation of deeming waiver cases, refer to [SI 01310.206](#).

Identifying Potential Deeming

[SI 01310.205](#); [SI 01310.206](#)

When someone inquires about SSI eligibility on behalf of a disabled child, be alert to situations where the child is institutionalized and the inquirer states that the child will be discharged to his/her parent's home. In these cases, it is especially important to establish SSI eligibility for the period of institutionalization since this may enable application of the deeming waiver rules.

The inquiry about SSI eligibility should be documented as a protective filing. The protective filing should be closed out with either an application or a 60-day closeout notice.

In post-eligibility situations, be aware of potential deeming waiver eligibility:

- a. When a change of address is reported for a disabled child leaving an institution; or
- b. During the course of a redetermination when parental deeming would reduce payments to less than the \$30 payment (plus state supplement, if applicable) and the child received SSI while in a medical institution throughout a month in which Medicaid made substantial payments to the facility for the child's care.

Also, be aware of changes in status (e.g., child is no longer eligible for Medicaid under a state home plan, or the child would receive a higher benefit under regular deeming rules, etc.) that may affect eligibility under the deeming waiver provision.

General Procedures

A manual notice is required in all parent-to-child deeming cases in which:

- a. Ineligibility will result due to parental deemed income or resources; or
- b. There is eligibility or ineligibility for benefits under Section 8010; or

- c. There is a change in the child's SSI eligibility under this provision.

Refer to [SI 01310.201](#) – [SI 01310.210](#) for specific instructions whenever the deeming waiver provision applies.

OBJECTIVE 6:

Determine if any exclusions of income subject to deeming apply and the basis for the exclusions. Cite exclusions from the online deeming process.

Deeming Exclusions and Exceptions

[SI 01320.100](#)

General Rule

In deeming situations, SSI considers the income of an ineligible spouse or parent(s) to be available to the eligible individual or child.

In determining the amount of income deemed to the eligible individual or child, certain types of income are excluded in spouse-to-spouse and parent-to-child deeming situations. (The same exclusions do not apply for sponsor-to-non-citizen deeming). Additionally, items that are not considered income for SSI purposes for an SSI eligible are not considered income for an ineligible and are not used for deeming purposes.

Deeming Exclusion

The following income deeming exclusions apply only in spouse-to-spouse and parent-to-child deeming cases:

- The value of any in-kind support and maintenance received by the ineligible spouse or ineligible parent(s) is not available for deeming. ("H" unearned type income is only posted for the eligible, never for the ineligibles).
- Income used to comply with the terms of court-ordered support cannot be deemed. The amount of the payment is deducted from

the ineligible spouse or parent's income before determining the amount to be deemed.

- The total earned income of an ineligible deemor or child who is a student under age 22 can be excluded from deeming (in determining the amount of the ineligible child allocation) up to the limits of \$1,820.00 per month and \$7,350.00 per calendar year in 2017 ([SI 00820.510](#)).
- Any public income maintenance (PIM) payments received by an ineligible parent, spouse or child and any income that was taken into account in determining the assistance or payments are not income for deeming purposes.

Deeming Exceptions

Deeming does not come into consideration when a claimant's own income is sufficient to make him/her ineligible. In such cases, deeming is not necessary.

EXAMPLE:

Joe Smith, the eligible, receives a private retirement pension of \$900.00 per month. His ineligible spouse, Wanda, works part time. Her gross wages are \$600.00 per month. They have four ineligible children with no income of their own. Because Joe's countable income of \$880.00 (\$900.00 - \$20.00 general income exclusion = \$880.00) exceeds the SSI FBR, he is ineligible for SSI, regardless of any deemed income.

There is an exception to the basic rules of deeming. A prior budget month's income will not include deemed income for that prior month from an ineligible spouse or parent if deeming does not apply for the computation month because:

1. The eligible individual is subject to the \$30 payment limit for the computation month; or
2. The ineligible spouse or parent died prior to the computation month; or
3. An eligible individual who was a child subject to deeming attains age 18 prior to the computation month.

Exclusions from Online Deeming

SM 01005.195

There are situations when the online deeming system either may not be used, or if used, the computation results must be manually adjusted.

The presence of multiple eligible children in the household requires a manual review of the online deeming computation.

The manual review involves determining whether the total deemed income to the eligible children should be divided equally.

Deem only the amount needed to cause ineligibility when less than his/her full share of deemed income will cause a child to be ineligible. The excess should be deemed equally to the other eligible children.

Special Procedures

The following situations require special procedures and apply only to the RMA spouse-to-spouse online deeming computations used for eligibility purposes. They do not apply to the parent-to-child computation or other uses of the spouse-to-spouse deeming computation.

1. A Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) exclusion applies to the eligible individual's or ineligible spouse's income.
 - The RMA spouse-to-spouse deeming computation cannot consider this kind of exclusion.
 - The net amount of the spouse's income (after PASS exclusion has been applied) must be input to obtain correct results.
2. Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE) applies. Beginning December 1, 1990, IRWE amounts may be used to establish SSI eligibility or re-eligibility.
 - For months beginning December 1990 and following, a computation using IRWE can be requested by reducing the earned income by the amount of the IRWE exclusion.
3. Mandatory State Supplement is involved.

4. Different deemed income amounts are needed for eligibility and payment computations for the same month.
 - Under RMA rules, eligibility is always based on income from the computation month, but payment is often based on income from an earlier budget month.
 - When an SSI cost of living or benefit rate change occurs, the FBR changes. Deemed income in spouse-to-spouse deeming cases considers the FBR. Therefore, two computations that involve the exact same data except for the FBR will result in a different amount of deemed income.
 - When an eligibility and payment computation involve different FBRs, one online computation is needed to determine deemed income and eligibility in the computation month. Another online computation is needed to determine deemed income in the budget month based on the prior FBR (for use in the payment computation).
 - If the individual is ineligible based on deemed income in the computation month, the deemed income from the computation month is entered on the SSR.
 - If the individual is eligible based on deemed income in the computation month, the deemed income from the budget month is entered on the SSR.

OBJECTIVE 7:

Activate deeming computations in the SSI Claims System.

Overview

The SSI Claims System can automatically detect and process parent-to-child, spouse-to-spouse, and sponsor-to-non-citizen deeming as long as all the appropriate data for the type of computation (e.g., living arrangements, record composition, and income for an income computation) is available in the system, is edit free, and the case is not a system limitation. If needed data is missing, edits will notify you of that fact. A case requiring a computation cannot be adjudicated to pay until the computation has been processed successfully.

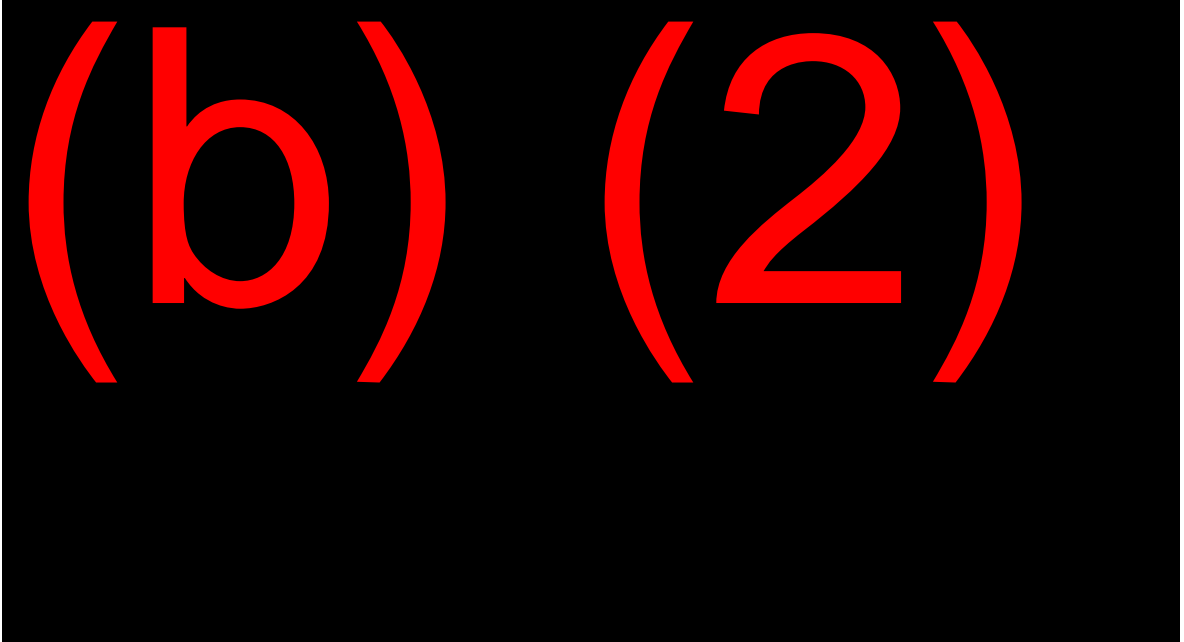
Computation Menu

[MS 04501.002](#)

Access the COMPUTATION MENU (CPMN). This will trigger the automated computation process. It can also be triggered from a selection of COMP on the PERS screen.

Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS SSI Menu (MSSI) screen.

[MS 04404.002](#)



Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Computation Menu (CPMN) screen.

[MS 04501.002](#)



Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Resource Case Summary (CRCS) screen that is propagated from the previous screen.

[MS 04501.004](#)



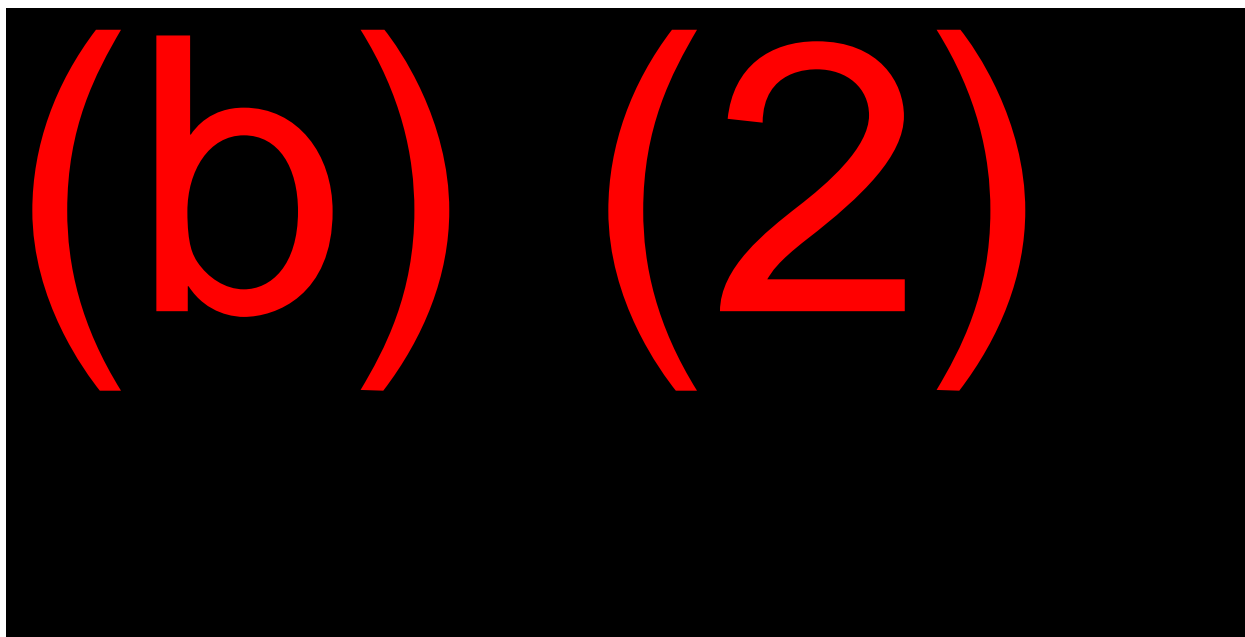
When the CPMN is requested, the system attempts to compute:

- Excess income;
- Monthly deemed income amount;
- Net ineligible child allocation, sponsor and sponsor's spouse allocation;
- Claimant/spouse/parent income;
- Sponsor/sponsor's spouse income;
- Non-citizen's income.

It is possible to suppress automated computations and input manual income deeming results using the CDEM screen.

Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Claimant Manual Deemed Income (CDEM) screen.

[MS 04501.010](#)



Computations are also initiated when the claims specialist attempts to adjudicate a claim. The system can detect if an automated computation is appropriate and initiates the computation during the clearance process.

NOTE: It is not recommended that claims specialists wait until the time of adjudication to initially trigger a computation. This can result in detection of computation edits or identification of additional development for the first time while attempting to clear a claim.

Automated Computational Limitations and Assumptions

[MS 04501.001](#)

The following situations are limitations (or operating assumptions) specific to the Automated Computations processes:

- Child resides in a home with other family members but is actually the head of his/her own household, which would put him/her out of the deeming computations. Automated computations cannot detect this, and a manual computation is required.

- If student status is not verified, the student earned income exclusion will not be applied, even if it is available.
- A spouse-to-spouse-to-child deeming situation may require a manual deeming computation.
- Computations initiated on deferred claims will carry the assumption that everyone who was gathered in the General ID portion of the claim is present in the household throughout the life of the application since there is no household data present.
- The system determines child status monthly so it can track changes in marital status, student status, age, and income, and it reacts accordingly. Therefore, if data needed in these areas to make a determination is missing, the process cannot proceed at all.
- The Person Screen Status (PERS) screen will carry the status of the computation via a screen called COMP.

The CPMN allows you to see the results of any automated income and/or resource computations. It will only show you selections that exist in the claim. Put a "Y" next to the desired screen and the system will display the results of that automated computation. If you select INPUT CLAIMANT MANUAL DEEMING or INPUT CLAIMANT SPOUSE MANUAL DEEMING, the CDEM screen will appear, where manual deeming results can be input for an individual or either member of a couple. If you select DELETE CLAIMANT MANUAL DEEMING or DELETE CLAIMANT SPOUSE MANUAL DEEMING and press ENTER on the CDEM screen, the manual deeming data and the CDEM screen will be immediately deleted from the path.

SSI Claims System Reminders

[SM 01305.330](#)

"I" Income Posting

For the system to properly create an "I" income posting for the ineligible child allocation, the information for the ineligible child(ren) must be coded

correctly on the LHC screen/living arrangement household composition page.

Select the ADD INELIGIBLES button on the LHC/household composition page when seeding records. This will bring up the add ineligible modal window, that lists ineligibles already collected in the general ID pages. Check the box beside the name to select any ineligible you wish to add to that particular living arrangement segment. The system then adds that person to the household composition, including the correct relationship type.

Multiple Eligible Children and Deeming

The system can automate deeming to multiple eligible children. To use this feature, make sure that the file shows that a disabled child's siblings are filing for, or already receiving, SSI. You can do this as follows:

- On the parent's ADUC screen/page, click the drop down arrow in the Number of children other than the claimant included in the deeming unit since MM/DD/YYYY field and select the number of children in the household (excluding the claimant). Once you have selected a number (other than zero), a box will appear for you to input all other children's Social Security numbers in the household. You should input the SSNs for all children (other than the claimant) whether they are eligible or ineligible.
- On the AXVI screen/page for the eligible siblings, click the Yes radio button in the field CURRENTLY FILING, CLAIM PENDING, OR EVER ELIGIBLE FOR SSI since MM/DD/YYYY. Click the Yes radio button in the Disabled and/or Blind field. You must complete every field on this page. If they are not blind, click No.
- Complete all paths for the claimant and the ineligible parents and siblings.

The presence of the MEC (Multiple Eligible Children) field in the CMPH segment on a SSID or SSIM indicates that automated multiple eligible deeming applies. MEC shows how many eligible children there are in addition to the claimant. For example, if MEC contains a 2, there are three eligible children and the claimant receives one-third of the income deemed from the parents.

Moving Between Different Deeming Households

Children often move between different deeming households. For example, an eligible child may live with the mother and stepfather for a while and then move in with the father and stepmother. This change requires an unscheduled redetermination (RZ) and a T33/Start Date action. The scope of the RZ will cover both deeming households, and both deeming units must sign a Statement of Income and Resources (SSA-8010). The system only prints out one 8010 with everyone's information on it. BE AWARE OF THIS! If signature proxy is not used, before giving or sending an 8010 for signature in this type of situation, make sure to black out all information relating to the other parent's household. Another option is to cut and photocopy.

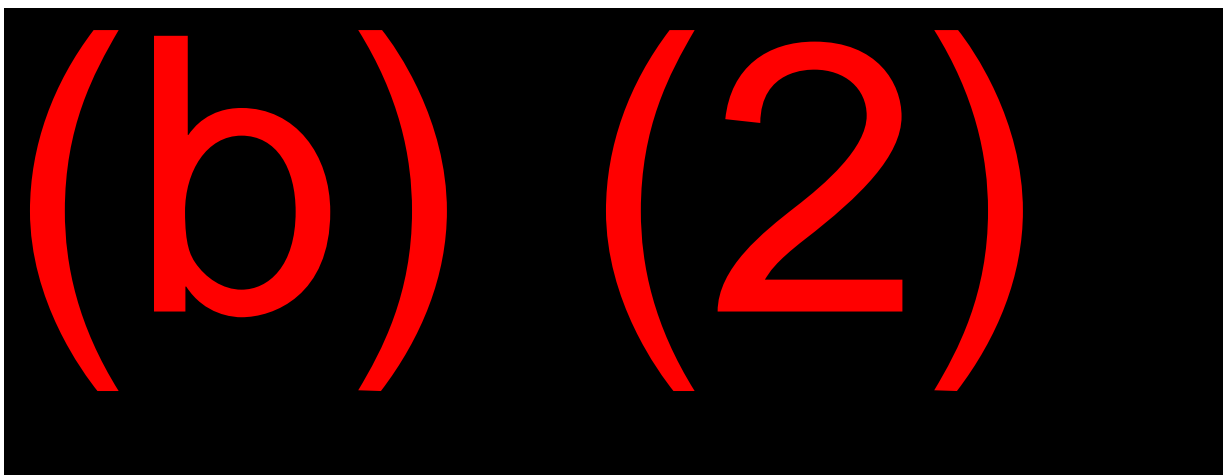
Resource Case Summary

[MS 04501.004](#)

The CRCS provides a summary of the system's resource computation. The value of resources for the claimant and eligible/ ineligible spouse is shown. The amount of deemed, total, and excess resources is also displayed on this screen. On a deferred claim, the system will do the computations as if everyone listed in General ID are in the household.

Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Resource Case Summary (CRCS) screen.

[MS 04501.004](#)



At the time of adjudication, the system will automatically run the deeming computation. If the system's computation of excess resources agrees with the data on Adjudicative Decision, the system will process the adjudicative action. If not, an edit will be given.

Ineligible Child Allocation Case Summary/Detail

[MS 04501.006](#); [MS 04501.007](#)

The Ineligible Child Allocation Case Summary (CICS) summarizes the monthly total ineligible child allocation amounts for the case from date of eligibility through the current computation month. This data will be posted to the SSR as type I unearned income. The system uses the data collected on the children (e.g., age, student status, income) to determine their child status and compute the "I" type income allocation. Any ineligible child who indicates on ACID that they have a claim pending is considered an eligible child for computational purposes.

The Ineligible Child Allocation Detail (CICD) screen displays on a monthly basis the net ineligible child allocation amounts along with actual earned and unearned income amounts from the date of eligibility through the current computation month. It will also show any earned income exclusions (like the student earned income exclusion).

Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Computation Menu (CPMN) screen.

[MS 04501.002](#)



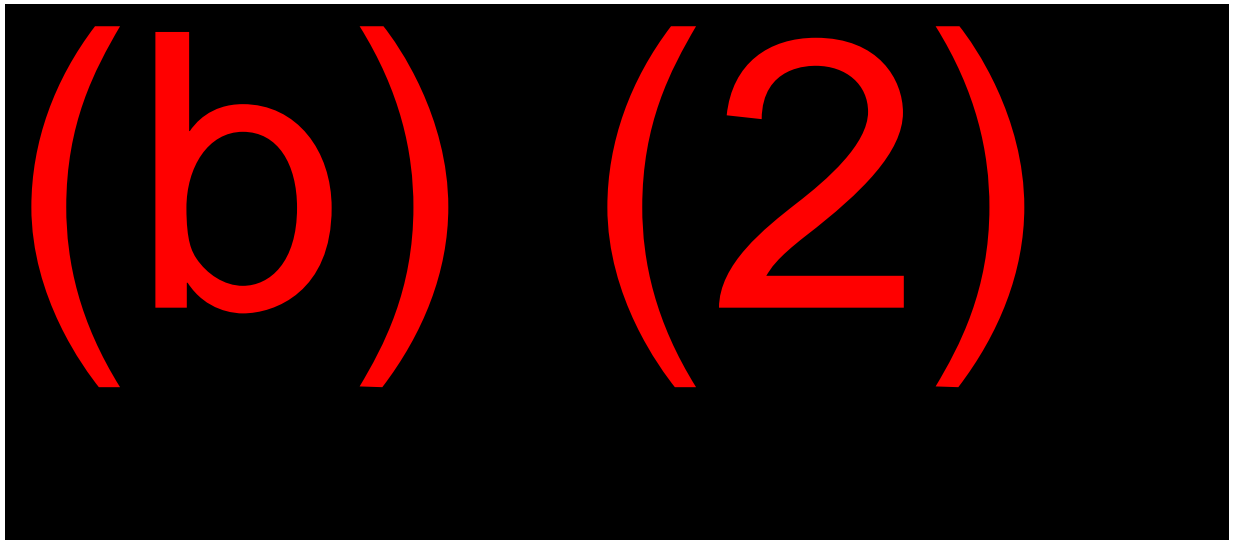
Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Ineligible Child Allocation Case Summary (CICS) screen that is propagated from the previous screen.

[MS 04501.006](#)



Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Computation Menu (CPMN) screen.

[MS 04501.002](#)



Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Ineligible Child Allocation Detail (CICD) screen that is propagated from the previous screen.

[MS 04501.007](#)



OFF-AIR ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Determine if parent-to-child deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies. Request the deeming screen and key in the data for an online deeming computation.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #1.
- Trainees should locate the Deeming break-even chart in the (b) (2) (b) (2)(b) (2) under “Systems Information”.
- Trainees should complete the deeming computations in Exercise #2 using the online deeming screen for parent-to-child (Title XVI Interactive Computations #8 from the SSA MAIN menu).

OBJECTIVE 2: Determine if spouse-to-spouse deeming applies and for which month(s) it applies and perform the online computation.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #3.
- Trainees should review the definition of spouse for SSI purposes.
- Remind trainees that the first-of-month rule applies to deeming.
- Trainees should complete Exercise #4 using the online deeming screen for spouse-to-spouse (Title XVI Interactive Computations #8 from the SSA MAIN menu).

OBJECTIVE 3: Determine to whom deeming applies for cases involving a multiple deeming situation and outline the proper development.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #5.
- Trainees should be prepared to discuss situations when multiple deeming is necessary.

- Trainees should review coding and UM field coding ([SM 01305.250](#)) for cases involving multiple deeming.
- If available, have trainees query a case where multiple deeming is involved and review the SSID.

OBJECTIVE 4: List the groups of aliens who are sponsored into the U.S. and determine if sponsor-to-alien deeming applies.

Mentor will cover local situations that may occur.

OBJECTIVE 5: Determine the rules behind deeming waiver cases.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #6.
- Trainees should review the POMS section for development and documentation of deeming waiver cases ([SI 01310.201](#) and [SI 01310.203](#)).
- Trainees should discuss the deeming waiver provision to ensure that the provision is understood.

OBJECTIVE 6: Determine if any exclusions of income subject to deeming apply and the basis for exclusion. Cite exclusions from the online deeming process.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #7.
- Trainees should read [SI 01320.141](#) (PIM payments).

OBJECTIVE 7: Activate deeming computations in SSI Claims System.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #8
- Using a cloned SSN, have trainees load a case with spouse-to-spouse deeming (i.e., cloned for RZ with 5B pending and add spouse using cloned SSN for initial claim).

- Trainees should complete Exercise #9.

EXERCISES

Exercise #1

In the following case examples, indicate whether parent-to-child deeming applies and why or why not as appropriate.

1. Suzanne, a 1-year-old child, is permanently confined to a hospital. Her parents are applying for SSI on her behalf. Does deeming apply? Why or why not?
2. On February 23, Suzanne (from #1 above) is released from the hospital and returns to her parents' home. Does deeming apply and, if so, when?
3. Michael Jones is 20 years old and is a full-time student. He lives with his parents, both of whom have income. He is applying for SSI for the first time. Does deeming apply? Why or why not?
4. Laurie, a 14-year-old child, is living at school. She returns home for three weekends in January and again for May 30 – August 26. Her parents, John and Cindy, have not relinquished parental control to the school. Does deeming apply? When? Why or why not?
5. Alice, a 9 year-old child, lives with her stepfather, Richard Jones. Alice's natural mother is deceased. Does deeming apply? Why or why not?
6. Joe and Nancy Bates are a "holding out" couple for SSI purposes. Ms. Bates receives TANF for herself and two children. Ms. Bates' two children are not related to Mr. Bates. Mr. Bates alleges that he does not make any of his income available to the others in the household. Mr. and Ms. Bates are not married under the laws of their state. If Ms. Bates files for SSI for one of her children, is deeming from Mr. Bates applicable? Why or why not?
7. Warren Frey comes to the district office to file for SSI on February 15. He will be 18 years old on February 27. Both his parents are in the household and both have income. When will deeming stop?

8. What if Mr. Frey (from #7 above) has his 18th birthday on March 1? When would deeming stop?
9. We are presently deeming income to Jeannie from both her parents. In June, her father leaves the household to look for work out of state. He is supposed to return in July. Will deeming from Jeannie's father be applicable for June and July?
10. In July, Jeannie's mother (from #9 above) reports that instead of finding work, Jeannie's father decided in June to move to Las Vegas to become a professional gambler. He is filing for a divorce and does not plan to return to the household. What effect does this have on the deeming computation?

Exercise #2

With the information provided below, and using the CURRENT YEAR FBR, complete the parent-to-child deeming computations using the online deeming program (#8 from the SSA MAIN menu, Title XVI Interactive Computations). There is no state supplement involved.

1. Phil Gray, an eligible child, lives with his father. He has no income of his own. His father has Social Security income of \$780 for April and has no other income. There are no others in the house. Request Phil's deemed income for April.
2. Fran King is an eligible child. She has two sisters in her household with no income. All three children are under age 18. Fran's father receives workers compensation of \$400 in April. Fran's mother receives wages of \$600 in April. Request Fran's deemed income.

Exercise #3

In the following case examples, indicate whether spouse-to-spouse deeming applies and why.

1. Mr. Fred Barnes is an SSI applicant. His ineligible spouse works part-time. Her wages are used in computing the TANF grant for herself and two children in the household. Does deeming to Mr. Barnes apply?

2. A husband and wife are living together. There is no one else in the household. Both are receiving SSI. Does spouse-to-spouse deeming apply?
3. Ms. Sally Curtis, an SSI eligible individual, married Mr. Richard Frost (who is not eligible for SSI) on August 10. Mr. Frost has wages as his only income. When does spouse-to-spouse deeming apply?
4. Mr. Frank Matthews is an SSI recipient living with his ineligible spouse. Mrs. Matthews is arrested on July 26. It is anticipated that she will not be released until December 16 at the earliest. When does deeming stop?
5. In August, a man is arrested for shoplifting. He confesses to the theft (problem #4) and Mrs. Matthews is released, returning home on August 1. What affect does this have on deeming of income to Mr. Matthews?
6. Mr. and Mrs. Don Taylor enter a Medicaid nursing facility on January 3. Because they are married, they share a room in the nursing home. Mrs. Taylor receives SSI; Mr. Taylor does not. Does deeming apply beginning in February? Why or why not?

Exercise #4

Using the CURRENT YEAR FBR and the information provided, compute RMA spouse-to-spouse deeming. Assume an FLA of A. There is no state supplement.

1. Ms. Diane Cutler is an SSI recipient with an ineligible spouse. Her spouse's only income is Social Security of \$800 per month. Mrs. Cutler has no income of her own. There are two ineligible children in the household. Each receives Social Security of \$100 per month.
2. Mr. Paul Jones is filing for SSI. He has unemployment benefits of \$100 per month. His wife receives wages of \$1,865 per month. They have no other income. They have three ineligible children with no income.

Exercise #5

In each of the following multiple deeming situations, indicate whether deeming applies and answer any other questions posed.

1. Mr. Harry Jenkins lives with his wife and their eligible blind 8-year-old son, Jack. Mr. Jenkins receives Social Security and a small SSI payment. Mrs. Jenkins works and her wages are being deemed to Mr. Jenkins. There is no one else in the household. Is Mrs. Jenkins' income deemed to Jack in this situation? Why or why not?
2. In question #1, if Mr. Jenkins were no longer eligible for SSI due to cessation of his disability, would Mrs. Jenkins' income be deemed to Jack?
3. In question #1 above, if Mrs. Jenkins' income increased so that Mr. Jenkins became ineligible due to excess deemed income, would deeming to Jack apply? If so, how would the deemed amount to Jack be determined?
4. Tim Palmer, age 13, and his father, Mr. Nathan Palmer, have both applied for SSI. You have determined that Mr. Palmer has excess income and excess resources. What denial should be used on Nathan's claim and what type of deeming will apply to Tim?

Exercise #6

1. List the three basic categories of aliens who are always sponsored in the U.S.

Exercise #7

1. What are the three criteria that must be met for a disabled child to qualify for the deeming waiver provision?

Exercise #8

1. Tracy Taylor is an eligible child living with her ineligible mother and two ineligible sisters. The only income in the family is her mother's wages of \$800 per month.
 - a. Is the automated system capable of accurately determining eligibility and payment amount?
 - b. What information must be transmitted to Tracy's record?
2. Use question #1 above, except the mother marries in July. Her husband works and receives wages of \$1,000 per month. Is the automated system capable of accurately determining eligibility and payment amount?
3. Donald Greely is an eligible child living with his mother and ineligible brother. Mrs. Greely and her ineligible son receive TANF and have no other income.
 - a. Can the automated system accurately determine eligibility and payment amount?
 - b. What income must be posted to Donald's record?
 - c. What deeming code (DMC) and welfare indicator (W) will be generated by the system?
4. Donna Smith is an eligible child living with her ineligible parents and three ineligible brothers. Her father works and receives wages of \$1,000 per month. Her mother receives Social Security disability benefits of \$300 per month. Donna and her three brothers each receive a Social Security benefit of \$62 per month.
 - a. Can the automated system accurately determine eligibility and payment amount?
 - b. What income must be posted to Donna's record?
 - c. If one of the ineligible brothers becomes eligible for SSI, will the automated system be able to accurately determine eligibility and payment amount?

For the following case examples involving automated spouse-to-spouse deeming, answer the questions regarding systems posting.

5. Willie Pierson is an eligible individual living with his ineligible spouse. Both Mr. Pierson and his spouse have wages. She also has unearned income consisting of a private pension and rental income. There are no others in the household. What income must be posted to his record for an accurate automated deeming computation to occur?
6. Elmer Johnson is an eligible individual living with his ineligible spouse and two ineligible children. One child has no income. The other child has income of \$110 per month. Use the current year's ineligible child allocation rate. What is the amount of the net ineligible child allocation (type I unearned income) to be posted to the system? Show the income posting for 01/18 and continuing.
7. Rose Newley is an eligible individual living with her ineligible spouse and their three children. Mrs. Newley has no income other than SSI. Mr. Newley and all three children receive TANF and have no other income. What income must be posted to the system for an automated deeming computation to occur?

Exercise #9

1. In each of the following examples, indicate whether a report to SSA is necessary.
 - a. An ineligible child in a deeming household starts a part-time job.
 - b. A parent, whose income is being deemed, stops work and begins to receive unemployment benefits.
 - c. Parents of an SSI eligible child divorce and the child's father leaves the household.
 - d. An ineligible child in a deeming household is age 19 and graduates from school. He will not be a student in the future.
 - e. An ineligible child under age 18 in a deeming household changes schools, but remains a full-time student.
 - f. An SSI recipient's ineligible spouse (who lives with the recipient) receives an inheritance of \$2,000.

- g. An ineligible child in a deeming household gets married.
- h. An ineligible child under age 18, with no earned income in a deeming household, stops going to school.
- i. An ineligible child in the household visits an out-of-town relative for two weeks.
- j. The amount of food stamps paid to the ineligible parent(s) increases.

Exercise #10

In each of the following examples, determine what income is used in the deeming process. If an exclusion applies, cite the POMS reference for the exclusion.

1. During April, an SSI claimant's ineligible spouse receives an income tax refund, wages, and foster care payments from the local Social Service office. The foster care child is not eligible for SSI.
2. Ms. Janet Parks is applying for SSI. Her husband, Mr. Parks, receives gross wages of \$1,000 per month. The family has no other income. Mr. Parks is under a court order to pay his ex-wife \$300 per month support.
3. Ms. Linda Dawson receives a Social Security benefit of \$400 per month. She sometimes drives a school bus for an hour a day, for which she is paid \$7. Ms. Dawson never knows ahead of time when she will be asked to work. During April, she received her Social Security check of \$400 and one day's wages of \$7. She has not earned anything since January. What income is available during April to deem to her eligible husband?
4. Mr. Paul Pierson is applying for SSI. His wife works. Mr. Pierson's own income from a civil service pension makes him ineligible for SSI due to excess income. Would deeming of his wife's income apply? Why or why not?

In each of the following cases, indicate whether or not the online deeming process can be used. If an online deeming exclusion applies, cite the basis for the exclusion.

5. A) You are doing parent-to-child deeming for April through June. There are two SSI eligible children for all months. The first child has income of \$132 per month. The second child has income of \$100 per month. Can online deeming be used? If yes, what modifications will be needed? If no, why not?

B) A monthly spouse-to-spouse computation is being done for July. The two ineligible children have income of \$110 per month and \$95 per month respectively. Can online deeming be used? If not, why not?

EXERCISE ANSWERS

Exercise #1

1. Deeming does not apply. The claimant is in an institution. For deeming to apply, she must be in the parents' household ([SI 01310.140](#)).
2. Deeming applies beginning with March ([SI 01320.550](#)).
3. Deeming does not apply as Mr. Jones is over age 18 ([SI 01320.550](#)).
4. Deeming applies for all months of the year. Laurie is still considered a member of the household even when she is at the school since she is temporarily absent ([SI 01310.165](#)).
5. Deeming does not apply. A stepparent is not considered a parent (or spouse of a parent) for deeming purposes if the natural or adoptive parent is deceased ([SI 01310.145](#)).
6. Deeming is applicable. Mr. Bates is considered to be the spouse of a parent. His income is deemed to the child unless the TANF agency verifies that it uses Mr. Bates' income in determining the TANF grant ([SI 01310.145](#)).
7. In March, the month after attainment of age 18 ([SI 01320.550](#)).
8. The answer is still March because deeming stops the month after attainment of age 18. Mr. Frey's 18th birthday is March 1, for SSI purposes he attains age 18 the day before ([SI 01320.550](#)).
9. Yes (assuming he has income). This is a temporary absence and her father is still a member of the household ([SI 01310.165](#)).
10. Since the absence is clearly not temporary, deeming from the father stops effective with July (the month after the change). The status on the 1st of the month determines the deeming status for the month of June ([SI 01320.550](#)).

Exercise #2

Deemed income – \$10.00 for 2018

No deemed income for 2018.

Exercise #3

1. Deeming does not apply. TANF payments and any income used to compute eligibility for AFDC/TANF are not considered available for deeming ([SI 00830.400](#), [SI 01320.100](#)).
2. Deeming does not apply. This is a couple's case ([SI 00501.154](#)).
3. Spouse-to-spouse deeming applies beginning in September ([SI 01320.450](#)).
4. Deeming stops effective August ([SI 01320.450](#)).
5. There is no interruption in deeming because Mrs. Matthews' absence from the household was temporary ([SI 01310.165](#)).
6. Deeming does not apply beginning in February because Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are in an institution ([SI 01320.450](#) and [SI 01310.140](#)).

Exercise #4

1. Amount deemed to Diane = \$0.00.
2. Amount deemed to Paul = \$0.00.

Exercise #5

1. No. Since Harry is still eligible for SSI there is no income to deem to Jack ([SI 01320.620](#)).
2. Yes (unless excluded for some other reason). A new computation would be required ([SI 01320.550](#)).
3. Deeming would apply. The excess amount of deemed income, after making Mr. Jenkins ineligible, is available for deeming ([SI 01320.550](#)).
4. Deny Nathan Palmer's case for excess resources (N04). Regular parent-to-child deeming applies.

Exercise #6

1. Aliens admitted under Family Unity provisions
2. Aliens admitted under Immediate Relative provisions
3. Aliens admitted under Employment Based provisions

Exercise #7

1.
 - a. The child must have received SSI benefits limited to \$30 while in a medical treatment facility for which Medicaid (or private health insurance) paid more than 50% of the cost of care.
 - b. The child must qualify for Medicaid under an authorized state "home care" plan.
 - c. The child would not be eligible for SSI under the parent-to-child deeming rules or would receive a higher benefit (personal needs allowance plus any state supplement) under the provisions of Section 8010 than under regular deeming provisions.

Exercise #8

1.
 - a. Yes, none of the exceptions to automated deeming apply.
 - b. Mother's wages and information about ineligible children for the net child allocation.

2. Yes.

3.
 - a. Yes.
 - b. Mrs. Greeley's TANF income (type F) must be posted to the SSI record.
 - c. DMC = I, W = 2.

4.
 - a. Yes, none of the exceptions to automated deeming apply.
 - b. Father's earned income of \$1000.00.
Mother's unearned income of \$300.00.
Donna's Social Security income of \$62.00.
Ineligible children's Social Security income of \$62.00 each.
 - c. Yes. Deeming to multiple eligible children is not a limitation to the automated deeming process.

5. Post Mr. Pierson's wages and his spouse's wages, private pension and rental income.

6. UM I2 0118 064000 C0INC01INC01. ([SM 01305.330](#))

Calculation:

\$375	For a child with no income
<u>+265</u>	(\$375 - \$110)
\$640	Type I Income

7. Post the TANF income for Mr. Newley and the children.

Exercise #9

1. a. Change requires a report.
- b. Change requires a report.
- c. Change requires a report.
- d. Change requires a report.
- e. Change does not require a report.
- f. Change requires a report.
- g. Change requires a report.
- h. Change does not require a report.
- i. Change does not require a report.
- j. Change does not require a report.

Exercise #10

1. Wages are deemed. Foster care and tax refund excluded ([SI 01320.120](#), [SI 01320.135](#)).
2. \$700 is available for deeming. The \$300 is excluded ([SI 01320.145](#)).
3. Only the Social Security of \$400. The wages are excluded as infrequent and irregular ([SI 00810.410](#), [SI 01320.165](#)).
4. It is not necessary to go through the deeming procedure, as the claimant is ineligible based on his own income ([SI 01320.400](#)).
5. A) Yes, online deeming can be used. However, since the eligible children have income that is not evenly divided, a manual allocation of the total deemed income may be necessary.

B) Yes, online deeming can be used. The fact that the ineligible children have differing amounts of income does not preclude online deeming.

AS WE REDESIGN ENTRY-LEVEL TRAINING, WE ARE ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR PAPER COURSE MATERIALS. THE MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY TAUGHT FOR THIS MODULE HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO ONLINE CONTENT. ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IS EMBEDDED WITHIN THE ONLINE OBJECTIVES. THERE ARE NO CORRESPONDING PAPER MATERIALS. PLEASE VISIT THE [LINK](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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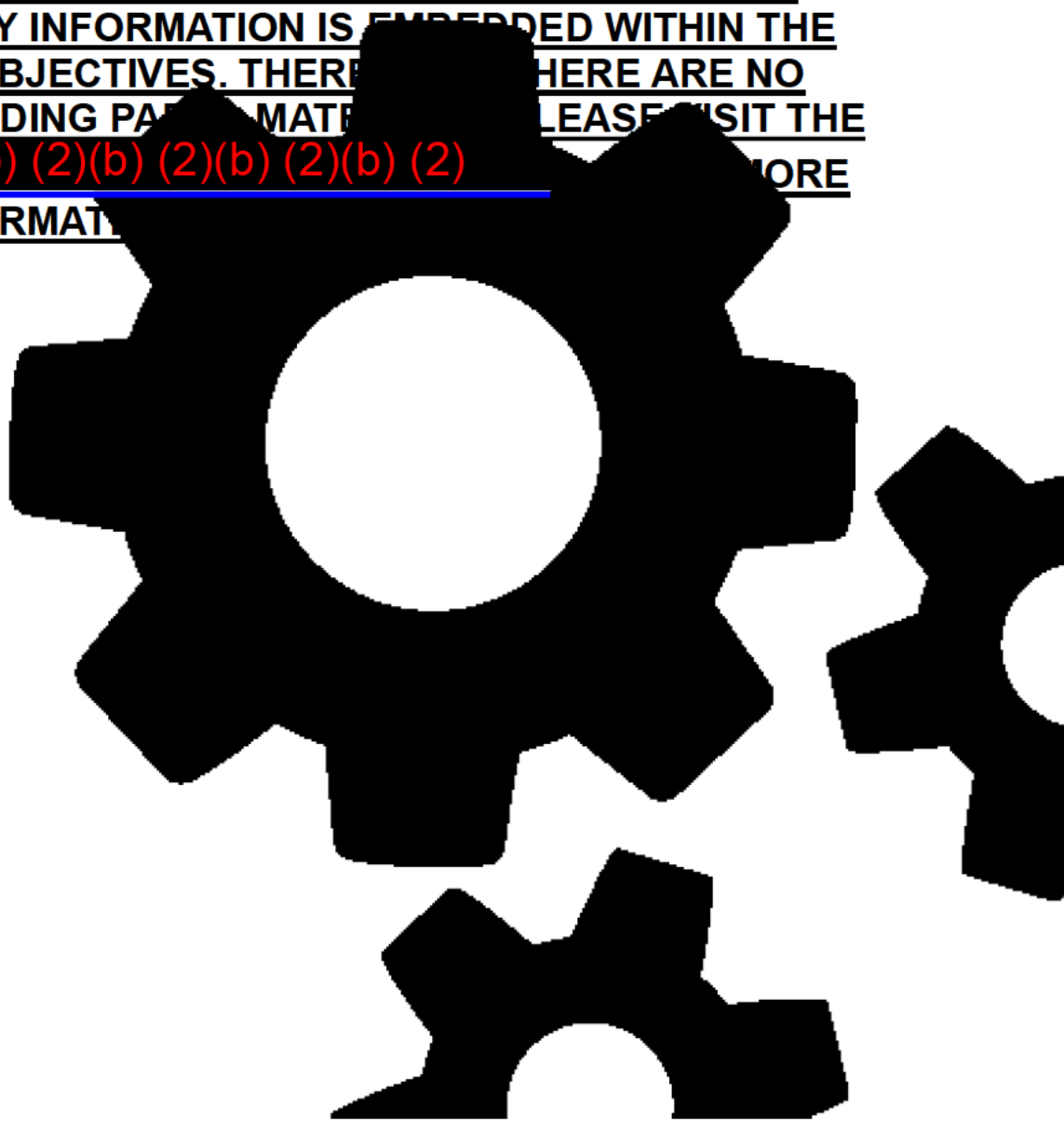


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LESSON PLAN

Module Objectives

At the end of this chapter, using appropriate references, the trainees will be able to:

1. Use the basic rules of RMA to determine whether a retrospective computation cycle applies and be able to identify the correct budget month.
2. Apply the rules of RMA when status-changing events occur.
3. Apply the rules of RMA when one or both members of a couple are in living arrangement "B."
4. Perform special couple's computations.

Length of Lesson

5 hours

Forms

SSA-4968 (Found in eForms and FICS)

SSA-L8030 (Found in DPS)

Helpful Resources

(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The chapter that covered retrospective monthly accounting (RMA) did not address the application of RMA rules to couple computations. Claims Specialists must be able to apply the general rules to changes in couple status (e.g., marriage, separation, divorce). They must also be able to determine the effect of living arrangements B and D on couple computations. This chapter will cover these subjects.

You will also learn about a special procedure the computer system uses when a husband and wife apply and one becomes eligible while the other's claim is pending or denied. This is called a special couple's computation or SREW computation.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Use the basic rules of RMA to determine whether a retrospective computation cycle applies and be able to identify the correct budget month.

Eligibility – Computation Month**[SI 02005.001](#)****Review of RMA Concepts**

This segment will be a review of the basic concepts of retrospective monthly accounting (RMA) and will show how they apply to couple cases. Separate eligibility and payment computations must usually be done for each month.

- Income and resources in the computation month determine eligibility.
- Income in the budget month determines payment in the computation month.
- The budget month is usually two months earlier than the computation month. This is called the retrospective computation.
- Remember, an E02 month can never be used as a budget month (BM).

Living Arrangements

LA-B VTR Income

The same VTR rules that apply to an individual apply to a couple. The couple's benefit is a single benefit; and the VTR is one-third the couple FBR.

- The couple status in the computation month determines the VTR in the eligibility computation.
- The couple status in the budget month determines the VTR in the payment computation.

Ineligible Spouse Becomes Eligible

[SI 02005.007](#), [SI 02005.030](#), [MS 04407.002](#)

When an Ineligible Files

When an ineligible spouse files and becomes eligible, a TCC begins.

1. The cycle starts in the first month both members of the couple are eligible for payment. (Remember the E02 month for the spouse.)
2. The retrospective cycle is disrupted.
 - The FBR increases to a couple's rate.
 - The couple's countable income and resources determine eligibility.
 - The couple's countable income in the budget month affects payment.
3. The TCC starts for both members of a couple even though the eligible individual normally would have had a retrospective budget month.
4. Both members of a couple must have the same budget month.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Apply the rules of RMA when status-changing events occur.

Two Eligible Individuals Marry

SI 02005.030

Two Eligibles Get Married or Start Holding Out

In the previous objective, we applied the rules of RMA in the situation where an ineligible spouse becomes eligible. Now, we will apply the RMA rules to two eligibles who get married or start holding out as a married couple.

- The eligible individuals are treated as individuals in the month of marriage and become a couple in the following month. For example, two eligible individuals marry in May. They are treated as two separate individuals in May and as an eligible couple in June.
- The couple's FBR is used to determine eligibility and payment starting with the month after marriage.
- If both members were eligible two months prior to the first month of couple status, the retrospective computation continues.
- The budget month would be two months prior to the month they became a couple; that is, the month before the month they got married.

In the above example, if they were both eligible in March, the retrospective computation cycle would continue despite the change in their marital status. Their budget month for May would be March. Their budget month for June, the month they are first treated as an eligible couple, would be April. Even if the budget month is a month before they became a couple, we combine both incomes for the couple computation.

- The couple's marital status in the computation month determines which FBR to use for the computation.
- It also determines whether or not to combine income in the budget month for the payment computation.

Budget Month Considerations

Both members of a couple must be eligible in the budget month and both must have the same budget month.

- If one member of the couple wasn't eligible the month before they got married, then that month cannot be used as a budget month. The month of marriage would be the budget month.
- If one or both were not eligible until the first month they were considered a couple, the TCC would apply.

Eligible Couple Separates

When an Eligible Couple Separates

When an eligible couple separates, each member of the couple is treated as an eligible individual beginning the following month.

- The retrospective computation (RMA) will continue if there has not been a period of ineligibility (BM = CM-2).
- In the month after separation, only the individual's own income and resources will be used in the eligibility and payment computations.
- Use the individual FBR the following month to determine eligibility and payment.

Member of an Eligible Couple Dies

When a Member of an Eligible Couple Dies

When a member of an eligible couple dies, couple status continues throughout the month of death.

The survivor is treated as an individual the following month. The retrospective cycle will continue, but only the surviving member's own income and resources will be used to determine eligibility and payment computations.

For example, if one member of an eligible couple dies in January, then the surviving member is computed as an individual in February. The retrospective computation method still applies in February and the payment for February is based on the individual's own income from the budget month.

Member of an Eligible Couple Becomes Ineligible

When One Member of an Eligible Couple Becomes Ineligible

When a member of an eligible couple becomes ineligible there are three things to keep in mind:

1. The spouse whose eligibility continues will be computed as an individual.
2. The budget month will be retrospective.
3. The eligible individual's own income from the budget month will be used for determining payment in the computation month, along with any deemed income from the ineligible spouse.

If there is no break in the eligible individual's own eligibility, the retrospective cycle is not interrupted.

Ineligible Spouse Regains Eligibility

When Ineligible Spouse Regains Eligibility

When an ineligible individual regains eligibility and was previously a member of an eligible SSI couple, we use the same rules of RMA that apply when two eligible individuals marry or begin holding out. However, note that because one former member of the couple was not eligible prior to moving home and not living with the spouse, both RMA and couple status will be interrupted. Since there are numerous reasons for ineligibility and each can affect the record differently, we will focus on the most common reason: confinement to a public or penal institution.

1. In the month the former members of the couple resume living in the same household, each person is still treated as an individual. If the ineligible person regains eligibility and returns home in the same month, these are the rules:
 - For the individual who regains eligibility, a TCC starts; his or her payment will need to be pro-rated based on the number of days he or she is eligible during the month.
 - We look at each spouse's income individually and use the individual FBR to determine payment and eligibility.
 - During the month the married or "holding out" individuals resume living in the same household, RMA for the spouse who is continuing to receive benefits will not be interrupted by the change until the following month.
2. The month after the individuals resume living together they are considered a couple for SSI purposes and RMA is interrupted. This is because:
 - Both members of the couple must be eligible in the budget month and both must have the same budget month.
 - As a couple, we'll use the couple's FBR and combine the couple's income to determine payment and eligibility.
 - In the month after the couple resumes living together, we'll use the month the ineligible individual regains eligibility as the

budget (BM = CM -1), as long as both members of the couple are eligible that month.

- The TCC applies if one or both individuals aren't eligible until they regain couple status.

NOTE: Remember the rule about not applying non-recurring income to the second and third months of the TCC. For example, if the person regaining eligibility has ISM in the month he or she regains eligibility, the income is counted only in that month.

EXAMPLE:

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been receiving SSI benefits for many years when Mr. Smith is arrested in January and jailed. His SSI benefits are suspended, and his wife begins receiving benefits as an individual the next month. On June 15, Mr. Smith is released from jail and moves back home with Mrs. Smith. In June, they both continue to be considered as individuals for SSI purposes.

In June, a TCC starts for Mr. Smith, he receives a prorated check, and his only income is the PMV from the Montgomery County Jail. The budget month used for the payment computation is June.

Mrs. Smith receives a full individual SSI check in June, since she is in a living arrangement "A" with no income, and the budget month for her payment computation is April.

In July, the next month, Mr. and Mrs. Smith are once again considered a couple for SSI purposes. Their budget month for the payment computation is June. The only income either received in June was Mr. Smith's ISM. Since the ISM is non-recurring income received during a TCC, we do not count any income toward the combined couple's income. In July, Mr. and Mrs. Smith receive an unreduced couple's benefit.

Rules of RMA When One or Both are in LA-D

In order for couple computation rules to apply, the member of a couple must be living in the same household. Sharing a room in an institution is not considered to be living in the same household for SSI purposes. When one or both members of an eligible couple enter an institution, they are eligible individuals beginning the next month, unless the period of

institutionalization meets the definition of a temporary absence. (See [SI 02005.050](#).)

Temporary Absence Due To Medical Confinement

[SI 02005.050](#)

Temporary Absence

It is possible for a married couple who are not physically living together to be considered living together for SSI purposes due to temporary absence rules. The couple eligibility computation rules are not affected by the temporary absence of one member of the couple from a household. If one or both members of an eligible couple are in a Title XIX facility and a temporary absence exists, they will be considered living together and the couple computation rules apply.

As was discussed in an earlier module, a temporary absence can exist without time limit if an individual:

- Has been in his/her permanent living arrangement for at least 1 full calendar month prior to his/her absence; and
- Intends to return to the permanent living arrangement; and
- Throughout each calendar month of absence, the individual in the medical institution is subject to the \$30 payment limit because he/she is in a medical care facility where Medicaid pays more than 50 percent of the cost of care.

One Member Temporarily Absent

If one member of an eligible couple is temporarily absent, they are considered an eligible couple. Determine SSI eligibility by subtracting the couple's combined countable income from the full FBR for a couple. If they are eligible, determine the amount of their SSI payment based on each person's own income.

Use the individual's FBR to determine the payment amount for the member of the couple that is not in the institution and use the \$30.00

payment limit to determine the payment amount for the member of the couple that is in the institution.

Both Members Absent

If a husband and wife are considered living together, but both are in a Title XIX facility, determine eligibility by subtracting the couple's countable income from the full FBR for a couple. Determine the SSI payment amount by subtracting the couple's countable income from the \$60.00 payment limit.

NOTE: It is immaterial whether they live together in the same room in the Title XIX facility.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Apply the rules of RMA when one or both members of a couple are in Living Arrangement "B".

VTR Income Rates**SI 02005.001****Effect of Living Arrangement "B"**

The following rules must be applied when "living in the household of another" exists.

1. Living arrangement "B" (LA-B) means the individual or couple has income in the form of in-kind support and maintenance (ISM).
2. The value of that ISM in LA-B is equal to one-third the FBR. It is called the Value of the One-Third Reduction (VTR).
3. The amount of the VTR cannot be rebutted or reduced by exclusions.
4. VTR in the computation month affects eligibility; VTR in the budget month affects payment.

The computation rules remain unchanged. Eligibility and payment computations are done separately.

Both Members of Couple in LA-B

To determine eligibility, if LA-B exists in the computation month, add the VTR (one-third the couple's FBR) to their other countable income. Subtract that amount from the couple's FBR.

To determine payment, if the LA-B also existed in the budget month, add the VTR to their other countable income from the budget month. Subtract that amount from the couple’s FBR for the computation month.

EXAMPLE:

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have been members of an eligible couple for two years. He has no other income. She receives a Title II retirement benefit of \$100 per month. They live together in their daughter’s home and are both in FLA-B. The couple’s FBR is \$1,100.00. Their eligibility and payment for March are determined as follows (2018 FBR used in computation):

ELIGIBILITY

\$ 80.00	(\$100 – 20 = \$80 countable income in March)
<u>+ 375.00</u>	(VTR for a couple in March)
\$455.00	Total countable income
\$1125.00	(Couple FBR in March)
<u>- 455.00</u>	(Countable income in March)
\$670.00	

They are eligible.

PAYMENT

\$ 80.00	(\$100 – 20) = \$80 (Income in January)
<u>+ 375.00</u>	(VTR for a couple in January)
\$455.00	(Total countable income in January)
\$1125.00	(Couple FBR in March)
<u>- 455.00</u>	(Total countable income in January)
\$670.00	
<u> /2</u>	(Divided by 2)
\$335.00	To each member of the couple for March.

If the members of an eligible couple were two unmarried eligible individuals two months ago and were both in FLA-B, the same rules apply.

The VTR in the budget month must be used in the payment computation.

The VTR in this situation would be that of two individuals.

EXAMPLE:

Use the same set of facts from the preceding example with the following variations. They were two eligible individuals who married in June. They are considered an eligible couple in July. Their SSI eligibility and payment for July are as follows (2018 FBR used in computation):

ELIGIBILITY

\$ 80.00	(\$100 - 20 = \$80 income in July)
+ 375.00	(VTR for couple in July)
<u>\$ 455.00</u>	(Total Countable Income)

\$ 1125.00	(Couple FBR July)
- 455.00	(Total Countable Income)
<u>\$ 670.00</u>	

They are eligible.

PAYMENT

\$ 80.00	(\$100 - 20 = \$80 Countable income in May)
+ 500.00	(250.00 x 2 individual VTRs)
<u>\$ 580.00</u>	

\$ 1125.00	(Couple FBR in July)
- 580.00	
<u>\$ 545.00</u>	
_____ /2	(Divided by 2)
<u>\$ 272.50</u>	To each member of couple for July

Only One Member in LA-B

If members of a newly eligible couple were unmarried eligible individuals two months ago but only one of them was in FLA-B, then we would use only one individual VTR amount in the payment computation.

Both Members in LA-B and Couple Status Ends

The basic RMA rules do not change when couple status ends and both members were in FLA-B in the budget month. The VTR rate for the payment computation is always based on their status in the budget month. Since they were a couple, we use the couple VTR.

Divide the couple VTR rate from the budget month and charge each individual with one-half, which equals one-sixth the couple FBR.

EXAMPLE:

Mr. and Mrs. Burrows are members of an eligible couple. He has no income and she receives \$100 a month from her union. Mr. and Mrs. Burrows divorce in June. They are considered two eligible individuals in July. They are in FLA-B in May. In July, they are both in FLA-A. Their SSI eligibility and payment in July are as follows (2018 FBR used in computation):

HIS ELIGIBILITY

\$ 750.00	(Individual FBR in July)
<u>- 0.00</u>	(He has no countable income in July)
\$ 750.00	

He is eligible. He is LA-A in July, so no VTR counted in the eligibility computation.

HIS PAYMENT

\$ 0.00	(He had no income in May)
<u>+ 187.50</u>	(He was in LA-B in May-1/2 the couple VTR)
\$ 187.50	

One-half the couple VTR must be charged to him.

\$ 750.00	(Individual FBR in July)
<u>- 187.50</u>	(1/2 couple's VTR)
\$ 562.50	His payment for July

HER ELIGIBILITY

\$ 750.00	(Individual FBR in July)
<u>- 80.00</u>	(\$100 - \$20)
\$ 670.00	

She is eligible. She is FLA-A in July so there is no VTR counted in the eligibility computation.

HER PAYMENT

\$ 80.00 (\$100 - \$20 = \$80 countable income May)
+ 187.50 (1/2 couple's VTR)

\$ 267.50

\$ 750.00 (Individual FBR in July)

- 267.50

\$ 482.50 Her payment for July

OBJECTIVE 4:**Perform Special Couple's
Computation.****Special Couple's Computation**

[SM 02101.035; T33/Start Date Processing Guide - Ineligible Spouse Files](#)

Introduction

The Special Couple's Computation is used to expedite payment to the eligible member of a couple when the other member is awaiting a disability decision or has been denied. The system performs a trial computation to determine if a payment can be made. If a payment can be made, the record is computed as an eligible individual with an ineligible spouse. This process is also called the SREW Computation (Special Routine Eliminating Waiting Computation).

Selection Criteria

[SM 02101.030](#)

Case Characteristics

The computation system selects the record for SREW Computation in the regular daily runs or in the monthly computation runs. Cases containing the following characteristics are selected:

- One member meets all factors of eligibility and the other member is awaiting a disability decision or has been denied.

- No computation exclusion exists; computation exclusion examples are: verification process has not been completed or a hold code (i.e., H80) appears in the payment status field.
- Neither member has a payment status of S06 or S08.
- Neither member has a denial code of N02 or N03.

This process is designed to be temporary; if the other member is subsequently approved, the system reverts to the regular couple computation and applies SREW OFFSET if applicable. If the other member is subsequently determined to be ineligible, the record should be terminated and re-established in the format used for an individual with an ineligible spouse.

SSI Claims System SREW Computation

[MS 04407.002](#)

In situations where both members of a couple are filing for disability simultaneously, the system is able to handle the SREW computation if one member is found ineligible. In these situations, you will need to use your best judgment in selecting the individual most likely to be approved as the disabled individual (DI).

Keep in mind, the system will not allow you to switch the claims composition. For example, if you select the husband as the disabled individual (DI) and the wife as the disabled spouse (DS), you cannot switch back and forth if later the medical decision proves otherwise. You will have to take the claim out of the system.

If you chose the wrong person as DI and later the ineligible spouse is allowed, the system can handle the change in claims composition. You will have to “re-walk” through the living arrangement screens in order to collect the data needed.

Non-SSI Claims System Cases Require Systems Indicators

Input Requirements

There are no special input requirements for the SSA-450SI in special couple's computations (SREW) cases.

When the record is under SREW computation, the rules for transmitting data to an eligible couple's record usually apply. Use ID codes 1, 3 or 7 as usual. Do not transmit type H income or type V income to the ineligible portion of the record.

When the SREW computation is performed, the income posted to the awaiting or denied member of the couple is deemed to the eligible member. Any type V income entries posted for the ineligible member will be ignored. All other income will be correctly used in the automated deeming process.

When a special couple's computation is done, special systems indicators are generated to the SSR.

- I or S (SREW computation indicators) is posted in the Couple Status Code and date field (CSC) of the Case Miscellaneous Data Segment (CMSC).
- "7" is posted in the Current Composition Code (C) field of the CMPH segment for the eligible member.
- OP SUP LA defaults are applied ([SI 01415.001](#)).

Trial Computation

[SM 01601.445C.8](#)

There are situations where the trial computation will result in a denial for excess income (N01) while the other member is awaiting a medical decision. In this situation, the system stops the processing time for the N01 member and the payment status field on the SSR will remain blank until a decision is made on the awaiting member.

EXAMPLE:

Mr. John Jackson and his spouse Carol apply for SSI benefits in January 20XX. Mr. Jackson is age 70 and receives Social Security benefits of \$800 per month. Mrs. Jackson is age 60, is totally disabled, and has no income. There has been no medical decision made on Mrs. Jackson yet. They are otherwise eligible for SSI and all criteria for SREW computation applies.

EXPLANATION:

The trial computation will result in Mr. Jackson being N01 because his Social Security is too high for him to receive a payment as an aged individual with an ineligible spouse. The payment status field will remain blank until a decision is made on Mrs. Jackson's case and the processing time stops for Mr. Jackson.

If Mr. Jackson's Social Security was \$350 and all other data the same as indicated above, the system would issue payment to Mr. Jackson while Mrs. Jackson waits for the medical decision to be made on her case. The payment to Mr. Jackson is \$420 per month while his spouse is awaiting her medical decision.

See Exhibit 1 for a guide to processing special couple's computation cases.

EXHIBIT 1: GUIDE FOR PROCESSING CASES INVOLVING SPECIAL COUPLE'S COMPUTATION

Situation

Resolution

Initial Processing

- Normal coding on both COUPLE CLAIM in system OR SSA-450-S
- System will temporarily pay eligible person as an individual with an ineligible spouse and issue allowance notice
- Record composition remains on SSR as couple
- System issues payment notice to first member

If disability decision is denial

- DDS or FO follows normal input procedures
- System records denial and issues SSA-L8030
- System continues to pay the other member as an eligible individual with ineligible spouse
- Record should be terminated and reestablished in the eligible individual with ineligible spouse format

If disability decision is final allowance and date of onset equal to date of eligibility

- DDS or FO follows normal input procedures
- System posts allowance to record, computes new payment, does offset computation per [SM 01320.000](#), issues allowance notice to referred member and notice of decision to spouse (or G1 alert if event is adverse)

If disability decision is reversal or denial and date of onset equal to date of eligibility

- Normal input of decision is made
- System recomputes record as eligible couple's record
- Manual notices must be prepared and issued by FO

If disability decision is allowance or reversal of denial and date of onset not equal to date of eligibility

- No input of decision should be made. Transmission of the date of onset will result in a code F or reject ([SM 01301.110](#))
- Force pay and T30/SD are required

Situation

If decision is presumptive allowance and both members are not eligible

Resolution

- DDS or FO follows normal input procedures
- System posts presumptive decision and recomputes records as an eligible couple for up to 6 months
- Does offset computation per [SM 01320.000](#)
- Issues notice of decision

OFF-AIR ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Use the basic rules of RMA to determine whether a retrospective computation cycle applies and be able to identify the correct budget month.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #1.
- Trainees should review the concepts of RMA, TCC and budget month factors by working the problems in Exercise #2.

OBJECTIVE 2: Apply the rules of RMA when status-changing events occur.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #3.
- Trainees should review examples in [SI 00501.155](#).
- Trainees should review [SI 02005.030](#) and [SI 02005.050](#) to reinforce the concepts that both members of an eligible couple must have the same budget month.

OBJECTIVE 3: Apply the rules of RMA when one or both members of a couple in living arrangement “B.”

- Trainees should complete Exercise #4.
- Trainees should review what occurs when eligible couples separate.

OBJECTIVE 4: Perform special couple’s computations.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #5.
- Trainees should read [MS 04407.002 Relationship Pathflow](#), paying particular attention to the section on “Special Processing Information”.

- Trainees should review Exhibit 1 with mentor.

EXERCISES**Exercise #1**

1. Applying the rules of RMA, answer the following questions.
 - a. Mrs. Allen is an eligible individual with an ineligible spouse. None of the three exceptions to RMA applies to Mrs. Allen. What would be her budget month for March?
 - b. On March 20, her ineligible spouse filed and became eligible. What exception to the RMA rules applies here?
 - c. If March is his E02 month, what would be Mr. Allen's budget month for April?
 - d. What would be Mrs. Allen's budget month for April?

2. An eligible man marries an ineligible woman in January. He is considered married for deeming purposes beginning with February. His spouse files for SSI on February 20 and is found eligible.
 - a. What is the computation method to be used for his payment in January?
 - b. What computation method would apply to March?
 - c. Identify the budget months for the eligible individual for the following computation months:

January	_____
February	_____
March	_____
April	_____
May	_____
 - d. Could deeming apply in this case?

Exercise #2

Trainees should review the concepts of RMA, TCC and BM factors by working the following problems:

1. Mr. Clark Barr, an eligible individual, is married to Amy Barr, who is ineligible. The Barr's live together in an apartment that they have rented continuously since 1989. Mrs. Barr works as a housekeeper and earns \$375.00 per month. Since his retirement, Mr. Barr has received \$400.00 per month from a private pension.
 - a. What is his BM for June?
 - b. What computation method is used?
2. On August 2, Mrs. Barr slips on the wet floor that she just washed and hurts her back. She files a teleclaim on August 10. She only received \$187.50 in wages in this month. Her claim is approved in October.
 - a. What is Mrs. Barr's BM for August?
 - b. What is Mrs. Barr's BM for September?
 - c. What is Mrs. Barr's BM for October?
 - d. What computation method is used for August, September, and October?

Exercise #3

Read and answer the following questions.

1. If an ineligible spouse files and becomes eligible in July, what is the budget month for September?
2. Will August be the budget month for both members of the couple?
3. If two individuals who have been eligible for several months marry in September, in what month do they become an eligible couple?

4. What would be their budget month for October?
5. If the members of an eligible couple separate in December, what will be the budget month for January's payment?
6. Will their eligibility and payment for January be based on the individual or the couple FBR?
7. If there has been no break in eligibility, will the retrospective or transitional computation apply to the individuals?
8. If the members of a couple divorce and cease living together in November, will their eligibility and payment in December be based on the individual or couple FBR?
9. Will a retrospective or transitional computation apply to the individuals in December?
10. Will their income in October be separated to compute their individual payments in December?
11. If one member of an eligible couple enters an institution in February, is the couple or individual FBR used to determine eligibility and payment for March?
12. If one member of the couple dies or becomes ineligible, will the computation of the other member be retrospective or transitional?
13. If the ineligible spouse regains eligibility and they are again an eligible couple, will the computation for the couple be retrospective or transitional?

Exercise #4

Read the following case examples and answer the questions given.

1. Two eligible individuals married in January. Their budget month for February is December. In December, one member of the couple was in LA-B. How will this affect the couple's payment computation?
2. The members of an eligible couple were in LA-B. They divorced in August, becoming eligible individuals in September. July would be the budget month for their individual computations in September. How will the fact that they were an LA-B couple in July affect their individual computations in September?
3. The members of an eligible couple were in LA-B through February. In March, they moved into their own household. How would the LA-B through February affect their payment computation for April?
4. If they are again in a B living arrangement in May, when will their payment be affected?

Exercise #5

Select the correct answer in the following multiple-choice questions:

1. Which of the following statements is not true of special couple's computation cases?
 - a. The FO must complete a special field on the SSA-450SI to begin the special couple's computations.
 - b. The record must be free of initial claims exceptions for the special computation to be done.
 - c. The income posted for the member who is not eligible for payment is deemed to the member who is eligible.
 - d. If the disability decision for one member of a couple is a denial and the other member of the couple is in payment status through the special couple computation, the system will generate the denial notice to the denied person.

2. Which of the following criteria must be met in order for a special couple's computation to occur?
 - a. The record must not be in a "hold" payment status.
 - b. Only one member can meet all factors of eligibility.
 - c. The verification process has been completed for both members of the couple.
 - d. All of the above.

3. Which of the following will not occur when the special couple's computation results in an excess income denial (N01) for the eligible member?
 - a. The processing time for the denied member will be stopped as of the date the special computation was done.
 - b. N01 will be posted to the SSR only for the N01 individual.
 - c. The payment status code will remain blank for both individuals.
 - d. The computation date (CPD) field of a SSID will show the date the special computation was done.

EXERCISE ANSWERS**Exercise #1**

1.
 - a. January
 - b. He is filing an initial application.
 - c. April
 - d. April

2.
 - a. Retrospective
 - b. Transitional
 - c. January - ANSWER: November
February- ANSWER: December
March- ANSWER: March
April- ANSWER: March
May- ANSWER: March
 - d. Yes, we would deem in February only.

Exercise #2

1.
 - a. April
 - b. Retrospective

2.
 - a. N/A for August; August is her E02 month
 - b. September
 - c. September
 - d. N/A for August, TCC, TCC

Exercise #3

1. August
2. Yes
3. October

4. August
5. November
6. Individual FBR
7. Retrospective
8. Individual
9. Retrospective
10. Yes
11. Individual FBR for each person is used for the eligibility computation. The \$30 payment limit is used to determine payment for the member in LA-D and the individual FBR is used to determine payment for the other member.
12. Retrospective
13. Transitional, the TCC applies.

Exercise #4

1. An individual VTR amount will be added to their other countable income.
2. One-half the couple VTR would be added to their other individual countable income.
3. Payment would be reduced by the couple VTR.
4. July

Exercise #5

1. a
2. d
3. b

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BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

SSA policy states that SSI payments are issued the first day of the month for which they are due. However, occasionally we may have to make separate payments to individuals. For instance, an individual may have a financial emergency and request payment directly from the FO. Emergency Advance Payments (EAPs) and Immediate Payments (IPs) are two ways to make direct payments to persons via Third Party Draft. FOs can make these payments while an individual is waiting in the office if the criteria to receive the payment are met.

You may also encounter situations when routine system processing is not possible due to systems limitations and the payment due is manually computed and issued by automated one-time payment (A-OTP). The A-OTP procedure provides for the manually computed payment to be generated and automatically recorded by the system.

This segment will explain various SSI payment procedures, to include underpayments and large past-due benefits. The original installment formula required past-due benefits that equaled or exceeded 12 times the FBR plus any optional State supplement, be paid in installments. Effective May 22, 2006, installment payments are now required when an individual or couple is eligible for past-due SSI payments that equals or exceeds 3 times the current FBR plus any optional State supplement. For individuals under the age of 18, large past-due benefits must be deposited into a separate dedicated account.

LESSON PLAN

Module Objectives

At the completion of this chapter, the trainees will be able to:

1. Determine when to issue an SSI Emergency Advance Payment (EAP) and apply the basic EAP procedure.
2. Determine when to issue an Immediate Payment (IP) and apply the basic IP procedure.
3. Use the One-Time Payment (OTP) procedure, identify when OTP is appropriate and determine when to release the payment.
4. Define and develop SSI underpayments.
5. Determine to whom an underpayment may be issued.
6. Understand installment payments and dedicated accounts.

Length of Module

4 hours

Forms

SSA-8102	Advance Payment Receipt and Notice
SSA-4968	SSI RMA Payment Worksheet
SSA-552	Dedicated Account Use of Funds Statement

Helpful Resources

(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2)(b) (2) (National)

OBJECTIVE 1:

**Determine when to issue an SSI
Emergency Advance Payment (EAP)
and apply the basic EAP procedure.**

When to Use Emergency Advance Payments

SI 02004.005

SSA makes Emergency Advance Payments (EAP) to initial SSI claimants who:

- Have a financial emergency
- Are presumptively eligible, or proven eligible,
- And are not yet paid on the claim (no EAP, IP, PD/PB, OTP, or regular payment)

The need for an emergency advance payment may become apparent during the initial application interview or later on when the application remains under development and pending a decision.

EAP Maximum and Actual Amounts

The maximum EAP is the smallest of these three amounts:

- The Federal benefit rate (FBR) plus the federally administered SSP level. (The SSP includes Mandatory Minimum State Supplementary (MMSS) and Optional State Supplementary (OSS) payments.)
 - If the EAP is paid before the first month for which payment is due, use the FBR and SSP for the first month for which payment is due. Otherwise, use the FBR and SSP for the month in which the EAP is paid.
- The total amount of benefits due from the first month for which payment is due through the month in which the EAP is paid.

- The amount requested for the financial emergency.

Procedure for Issuing Emergency Advance Payments

[SI 02004.010](#)

When to Make EAPs

SSI EAPs may only be made to claimants who are initially applying (see [SI 02004.005A.1](#)).

NOTE: A recipient in suspense status who is being reinstated for payment is not eligible for an advance payment. However, an “immediate payment” (IP) may be appropriate. IPs will be discussed in the next objective.

Who Gets an EAP

EAPs may only be made to claimants who are presumptively or proven eligible and face a financial emergency.

To establish that an individual is “presumptively disabled”, it may be necessary for the case to go to the Disability Determination Service (DDS) for further development.

The claimant’s allegation is generally sufficient to establish a financial emergency unless there is an indication that he/she has sufficient cash or other funds available and accessible.

Required Documentation

The process involves three steps to generate an EAP:

1. Establishment
2. Approval
3. Transmittal of the information to the SSR

The entire dollar amount to be paid must be determined according to the computation rules. There will be an interface between the system and the TPPS system. The information will be needed to create a third party draft (TPD) for an EAP that will propagate to the TPPS queue from the UPEP screen in the system. To allow printing of the TPD check from TPPS, the EAP data must be established, approved and transmitted to the SSR in the same day. If all three steps are not completed in the same day, the EAP information will be dropped from the system holding file and will not be propagated into TPPS and will not be sent to the SSR in the overnight batch process.

1. Establish

To establish the EAP, update the UMEN screen via the Direct SSR update path. From the UMEN,

- Select the Payment Menu.
- Select function “5”-Special Payments on the UPMN screen.
- Next, from the Special Payments Menu (UPSP) select payment type “1” for Establish.
- Next select payment type “1” for Emergency Advance Payment.
- Complete the Emergency Advance Payment (UPEP) screen per [MS 00303.008](#) and enter through the simulated SSR (SSIM).

2. Approval

Another user (with a different PIN and password) must log onto PCOM and approve the EAP.

- On the UMEN via the Direct SSR update select Payment Menu.
- On the UPMN select “5” Special Payments.
- On the UPSP select “4” for Approve and “1” for EAP.
- Enter through the SSIM to complete the approval.
- Approval of the EAP must take place from the UPSP screen, with a different PIN and password other than the technician who established the EAP.

3. Transmit

- The technician who established the EAP must reenter the Direct SSR Update to transmit the information to the SSR.
- From the UPSP screen select the “Transmit” Function “5”.
- Enter through to the BTCF screen and select “Send Data to the SSR”.

Once transmitted, the data goes to the SSR and the TPPS system. The cashier must retrieve the information from the EAP draft from the TPPS Main Menu. Once the information is retrieved, the cashier can print the check.

Before releasing the EAP third party draft to the claimant, the interviewer will complete an [SSA-8102](#) (Advance Payment Receipt and Notice). You may find this form on the [inForm](#) library as well. Before releasing the EAP check, obtain a SSIM and review the APM field to reflect the EAP. The interviewer should make sure the claimant or the representative payee signs the form. Give a copy of the SSA-8102 to the claimant or representative payee marked “Claimant.” Obtain another SSI query the following day to verify the EAP posted and the EAP recovery will take place. Attach the SSI query to the original SSA-8102. Give the original SSA-8102 with the query to the cashier who prepared the TPD. After the EAP has been correctly recorded on the SSR, the SSA 8102, SSI query and any computation worksheets are retained for the TPPS file.

Recovery of Emergency Advance Payments

[SI 02004.005 C](#)

An EAP can be recovered in full if there are retroactive benefits available. If there are no retroactive benefits due, recover the EAP in six equal monthly installments. Recovery rates can be input using Direct SSR Update and will be shown in the “APR” field of the SSR.

When an EAP Becomes an Overpayment

An EAP becomes an overpayment subject to recovery if the claimant and/or spouse are found ineligible upon final determination due to a non-

disability factor. As for any overpayment, waiver provisions can apply to claimants who are without fault.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Determine when to issue an Immediate Payment (IP) and apply the basic IP procedure.

Purpose of IP Procedure**[SI 02004.100](#)****IP Definition**

When a financial emergency or potential public relations problem exists, consider payment via the immediate payment (IP) procedure. An IP is an expedited payment via third party draft, authorized by an operations supervisor or higher field office management. An IP may be paid to an individual who is eligible for SSI or entitled to Title II or both. The IP process applies to both initial claims and PE cases.

NOTE: If an EAP can be made, always pay an EAP before considering an IP. If an EAP cannot be made, then and only then will an IP be considered.

Criteria under Titles II and XVI**[SI 02004.100](#)****IP Criteria**

To process an IP, the case must meet the following criteria:

- The case involves a delayed payment, interrupted payment or non-receipt of issued payments with payment due immediately; and

- All development is complete and eligibility for payment has been established; and
- Either the claimant has a financial emergency that the FO cannot otherwise resolve; or
- FO management concludes there is a potential adverse public relations problem.

Direct Deposit

[GN 02402.001](#), [GN 02402.005](#)

Most recipients should be receiving their benefit checks via direct deposit or Direct Express. We must discuss this requirement with each claimant during the initial claim and any PE action, if they do not already have direct deposit on their record. There are three automatic exemptions to direct deposit:

- Recipient born before May 1, 1921 and wants a paper check, or
- Payment not eligible for deposit to Direct Express card, or
- Direct Express card is suspended or cancelled.

Treasury may also grant an exemption on a case-by-case basis.

Maximum IP

The amount of the IP will be the lower of the following:

- \$999.00 for an individual or each member of an eligible couple;
- The total unpaid benefits due at the time the FO makes the IP; or
- The amount requested for the emergency, which may be less than the total of unpaid benefits due or \$999.00

Non-Receipt Criteria

An IP can be issued if the claimant indicates dire need or financial emergency in a non-receipt situation. The claimant's allegation over a signed statement is sufficient proof of dire need or financial emergency.

NOTE: Review the record for possible double check negotiation abuse.

Immediate Payments in Concurrent Cases

[SI 02004.120](#)

Concurrent Cases

When both Title II and SSI are involved, the IP will be issued under the title that can immediately pay the full amount of the IP. If both titles can pay the full amount, then the IP will be issued against the Title II payments due. If neither title can pay the full amount, then the IP will include combined payments under both titles.

Determination of Need for IP

[SI 02004.130](#)

Need for IP

The need for an IP must be determined per POMS instructions. Consider:

- Other payment methods and alternatives to alleviate the financial emergency or PR problem; and
- Any history of double check negotiations in PE cases.

If the financial emergency or adverse PR situation cannot be resolved by other means, consider issuing an IP.

Delivery and Receipt

Deliver the third party draft (it cannot be mailed) and obtain the claimant's or representative payee's signature on the completed [SSA-8102](#), Advance Payment Receipt and Notice. Give the claimant or representative payee a copy of the 8102 marked "Claimant" as a notice for their record. Query the SSR to show the APM field before posting the IP and after posting.

Attach the original SSA-8102 to these queries that show the IP posted. Return the original SSA-8102 to document the TPPS file.

Systems Processing

Title II IP Income Posting

You may use the web-based [CPS-TII Critical Payment System](#) application available from [IMain](#) to process the T2 IP. The Title II CPS system should interface and post the Title II IP to the SSR as unearned income. When this occurs, no further action is necessary. If the Title II IP does not post to the SSR, transmit the amount of any Title II IP made as type "A" unearned income for the month the IP was paid. If the case is in the system, the income can be posted on the ISSA Screen.

If retroactive and/or continuing Title II payments are due, it may also be necessary to post this income to the SSR in the same manner or via the UM field of the SSA-450SI or SSA-1719B in the event the normal SSR/MBR interface has not occurred. This is necessary to ensure that continuing SSI payments are accurate ([SM 01325.030](#)).

Start Date Records

[SM 01325.035](#)

An entry to a SD record using the adjust function in Direct SSR Update will sometimes be needed if there is an uncollected EAP/IP balance on the record being terminated.

Any uncollected EAP/IP will be shown as an advance payment balance in the APC field of the MPMT segment of the SSR. If possible, this amount should be collected on the existing record: e.g., withhold from force pay or A-OTP check if payment is due.

Compute the amount to be transferred by adding any outstanding prior EAP/IP balance to be collected that is shown in the APC field on the SSR of the record being terminated to any IP being paid or not yet posted at this time.

Where an EAP was posted as an overpayment, determine the amount yet to be recovered in installments and enter the data in file overpayment fields.

NOTE: Do not add in or transfer any EAP/IP amount already collected. Transfer only amounts that have not yet been recovered. However, if recovery of the EAP/IP has been scheduled but not yet collected, that amount will not be shown in the start date record. If the old record is terminated prior to the recurring tape cutoff for a check with an EAP/IP recovery, the amount scheduled for recovery will also need to be added to the total entered on the Adjust Screen in Direct SSR Update.

To Establish an IP in the system

- Use Direct SSR Update (“2” and “19”) on the Main MSSSI menu.
- Select Payment Menu on the UMEN screen.
- Select Special Payments Menu on the UPMN screen.
- Select “Establish” and “IP” on the UPSP screen.
- On the UPIP screen, check the name and SSN and overkey if necessary.
- Enter the Federal Amount and State Amount and State Code (if appropriate).
- Enter through the compare screen(s), view the simulated SSR and hit enter to return to MSSSI menu.
- Submit case to a member of management for approval.

To Approve an IP in the system

NOTE: The approval input must be made by a different PIN and password than the one used to establish the IP.

- On the UPSP screen, select “Approve” and “IP” for type of payment.
- Review the payment information displayed and enter “Y” in the “Approve” field.
- Enter through the compare screen(s), view the simulated SSR and hit enter.
- Submit the case to the employee who will transmit the payment to the SSR.

To Transmit the IP to the SSR

NOTE: The transmittal of the IP must be done by the office issuing the third party draft, but must not be done by the cashier or backup cashier.

- On the UPSP screen, select “Transmit” and “IP”.
- Enter through the compare screen(s), view the simulated SSR, and enter through to the BTCF screen and SEND DATA TO THE SSR.

If the payment is not transmitted, there will be no systems record of the payment issued and the payment will be dropped from the system holding file overnight.

EAP versus IP

[SI 02004.001](#)

	EAP	IP
Authority	Section 1631(a) of the Social Security Act	Decision by the Commissioner
SSI or Title II	SSI	SSI and/or Title II
When	Initial Claims only	Initial claims or post-eligibility
Money Limit	Federal benefit rate plus State Supplementary Payment level	\$999 total Title II and SSI
Frequency	One time per claim	Paid as needed as long as criteria is met
Recovery	6 monthly installments; or All at once from a retroactive payment	From first regular payment
Priority	EAP before IP	EAP before IP
Approval	2 nd Pin requires claims specialist or higher approval	2 nd Pin requires management approval
POMS	SI 02004.005	SI 02004.100

OBJECTIVE 3:

Use the One-Time Payment (OTP) procedure, identify when OTP is appropriate and determine when to release the payment.

One-Time Payment Procedure**[SM 01901.001](#)****Introduction**

The One-Time Payment (OTP) procedure is a method of making an accurate timely payment when it cannot be made routinely through the automated system. The two types of one-time payment processing allow us to bypass the regular systems process to issue payments.

- The automated one-time payment (A-OTP) system provides for a manually computed payment to be generated and recorded by the system.
- The manual one-time payment (M-OTP) procedure allows for payments to be manually computed and issued totally outside the system.

NOTE: The M-OTP procedure should be used as a last resort. See [SM 01901.410](#) for instructions on processing a M-OTP.

OTP Criteria**[SM 01901.005](#)**

It is not necessary for the recipient to contact the FO about a payment delay before an OTP is issued. An OTP can be issued when any **one** of the following criteria are met. This list is not all inclusive:

- Payment is or was due and systems input was not made or was unsuccessful. In addition, thirty days have lapsed since the payment due date, or hardship exists, or Goldberg/Kelly procedures apply and due process data input to automatically reinstate payment is made after the supplemental payment tape cutoff date.

Or

- Retroactive payment is due to a State in Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR) cases and systems generation of IAR payment to the State is not possible.

Or

- Past due benefits must be deposited to a dedicated account.

Or

- The system is unable to pay an authorized representative directly because there are multiple authorized representatives on the record.

Or

- Excess refund or conserved funds must be reissued to claimant or representative payee.

Automated OTP

Process

The A-OTP process involves systems issuance of a manually computed payment. An A-OTP can be issued through the system on an established record in most cases, regardless of the payment status or prior payment history.

An A-OTP can be processed to a record in any suspense payment status or any record in T30/T31/T32/T33 payment status.

NOTE: An A-OTP cannot be processed on initially denied and terminated records. These records can be identified by a code of T in the Record

Identification Code (RIC) field and an N entry in the Denial Status (DS) field.

Payment by A-OTP can cover a period prior to the start date (SD) or date of entitlement (DOE) of the record for which it is posted.

Steps to Issue a One Time Payment (OTP)

[SM 01901.015](#)

When certifying an OTP, keep all documentation in the case folder. For electronic claims scan or fax the documentation into eView, Non-Disability Development section.

For paper folders, file in the Non-Disability Development (orange) section.

These steps do not have to be done in this order; however, complete all necessary steps.

1. Obtain a current SSID including complete payment history.
2. Obtain a current AACT query and verify that the recipient is not receiving payment under a different SSN by checking the BOAN and X REF fields.
3. Check your office's central control file to ensure that an M-OTP (Manual OTP) has not been certified for the same period.
4. Document computation of the A-OTP with (as appropriate):
 - Title XVI Interactive Computations deeming screen results;
 - Form SSA-4968;
 - eComps.

NOTE: Because the query (current SSID) will show the due amounts, using the Title XVI Interactive Computations screen is not required for OTPs resulting from:

- Excess refunds;
- Conserved funds;

- Systems-computed underpayments on non-pay records.
 - If necessary, complete the SSA-4904-U2 (SSI Monthly Manual Payment Computation Summary). (See [SM 01901.220](#))
 - If payment is made for periods prior to 4/82, complete SSA-8109-U2 (SSI Quarterly Manual Payment Computation Summary). (See [SM 01901.250](#))
 - If the A-OTP represents conserved funds or an excess refund, allot the A-OTP by month beginning with the current month or the month before the representative payee changed. Work backward until the total amount to be paid is accounted for.
 - If the A-OTP represents an excess refund from an authorized representative and is due to the claimant, allot the A-OTP by month beginning with the most recent component month of the fee payment and work backward until the total amount to be paid is accounted for (See [SM 01901.005](#)).
- NOTE:** The maximum federal amount that can be paid to any ID code in a month is the Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) for an individual with an essential person.
5. If issuing an A-OTP, use Direct SSR Update screens.
 6. Submit all documentation to a qualified employee for approval.
 7. Issue an appropriate notice. If the A-OTP represents initial payment to the recipient, issue a manual award notice (SSA-L-8025-U2; SSI Notice of Award) and suppress the systems-generated notice.
 8. In all cases, obtain a query the next day to verify the A-OTP has posted correctly to the SSR.

MSSICS Input

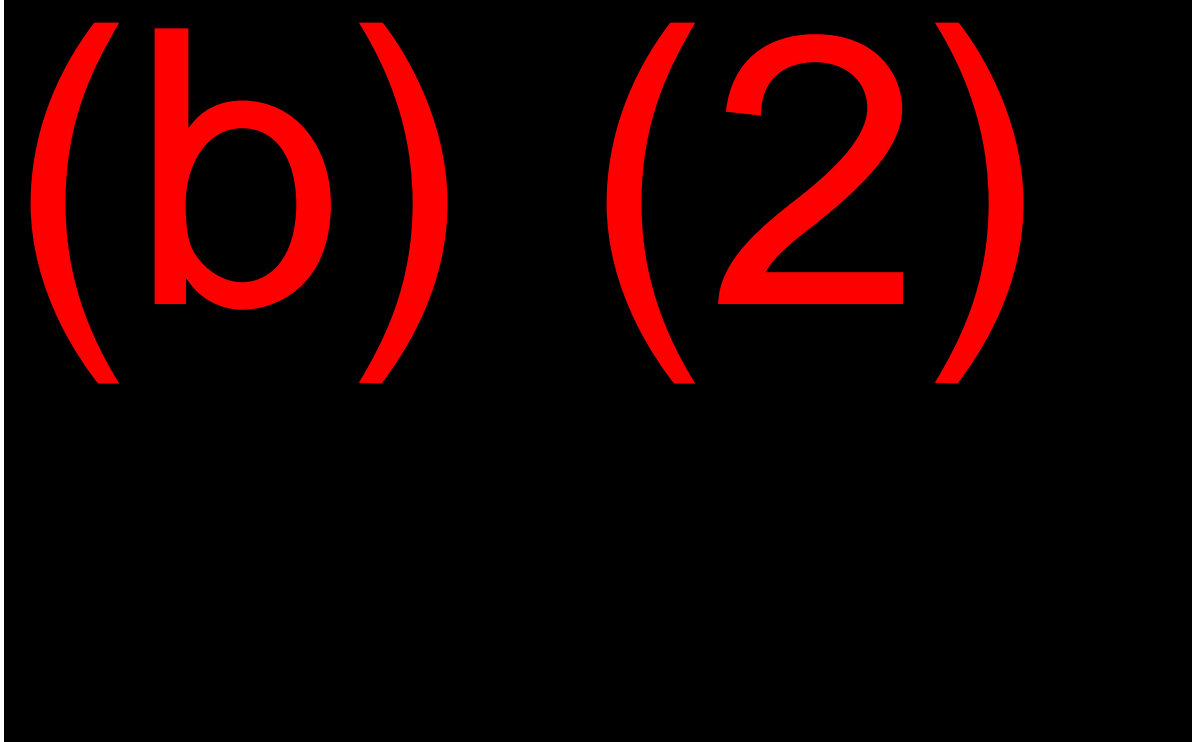
[MS 00303.022](#)

The Direct SSR Update function (2/19) in MSSICS is used to record all OTP inputs. Once you have selected Direct SSR Update you will follow these steps to process the OTP:

- On the USSR screen select the record you are paying the OTP on.
- From the UMEN screen select Payment Menu.
- From the UPMN screen select Special Payments (5).
- On the UPSP screen select “Establish (1)” and “One Time Payment (3)”
- On the UPOT screen select the reason for the OTP, then enter the payment range date(s) that the OTP is to be paid.
- Review the UPOA screen to ensure that all information is correct.
- The UPOP screen is used to record the amount for each month that is to be paid via the OTP.
- Once you enter the information on the UPOP screen you will receive the RJCT screen. This screen alerts you to the fact that an authorized employee needs to authorize and transmit the OTP.
- You will need to get a qualified employee to approve the OTP via the UPSP screen and send the data to the SSR.

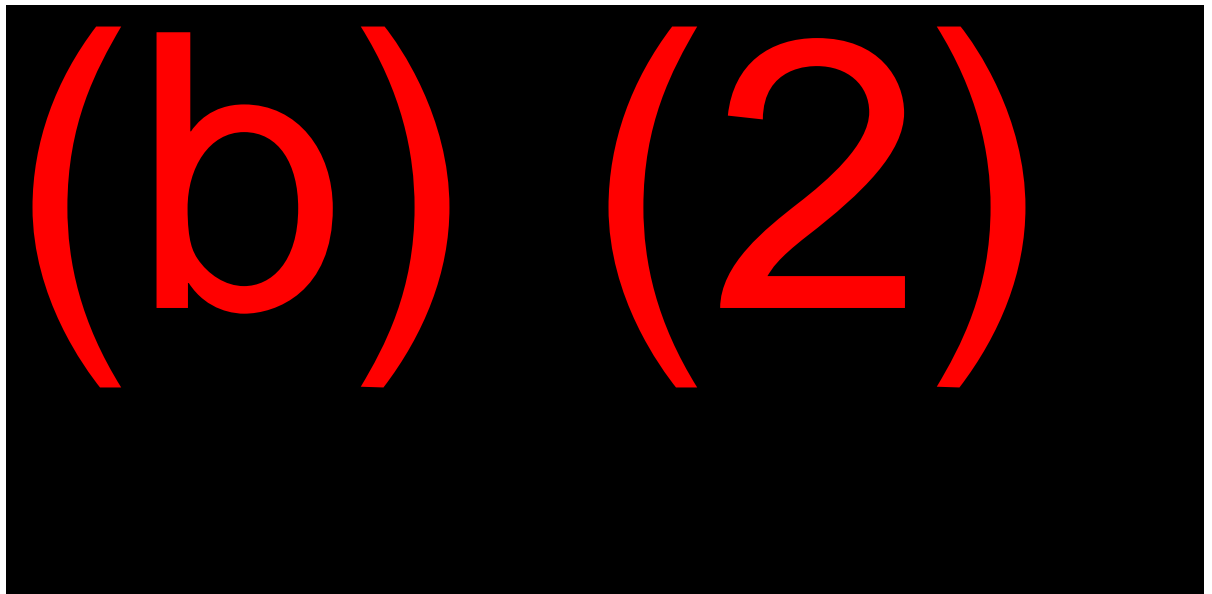
Below is a facsimile of the Direct SSR Update Menu (UMEN) screen.

[MS 00302.003](#)



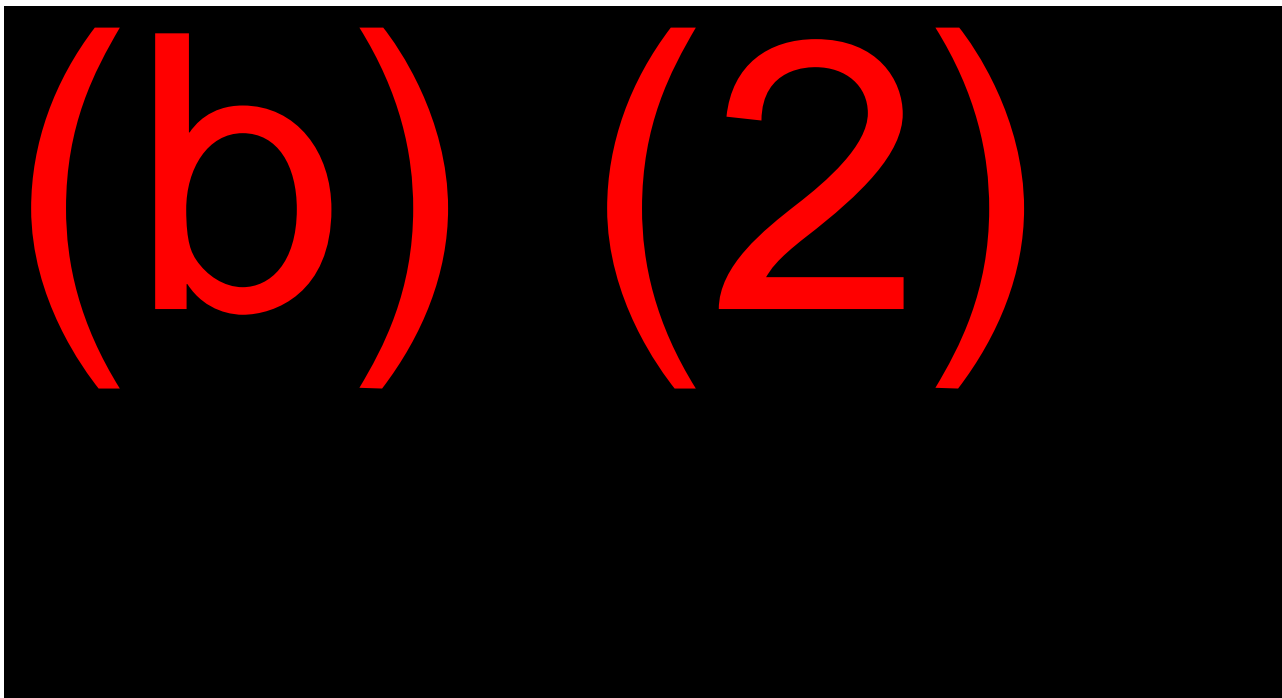
Below is a facsimile of the Payment Menu (UPMN) screen.

[MS 00303.003](#)



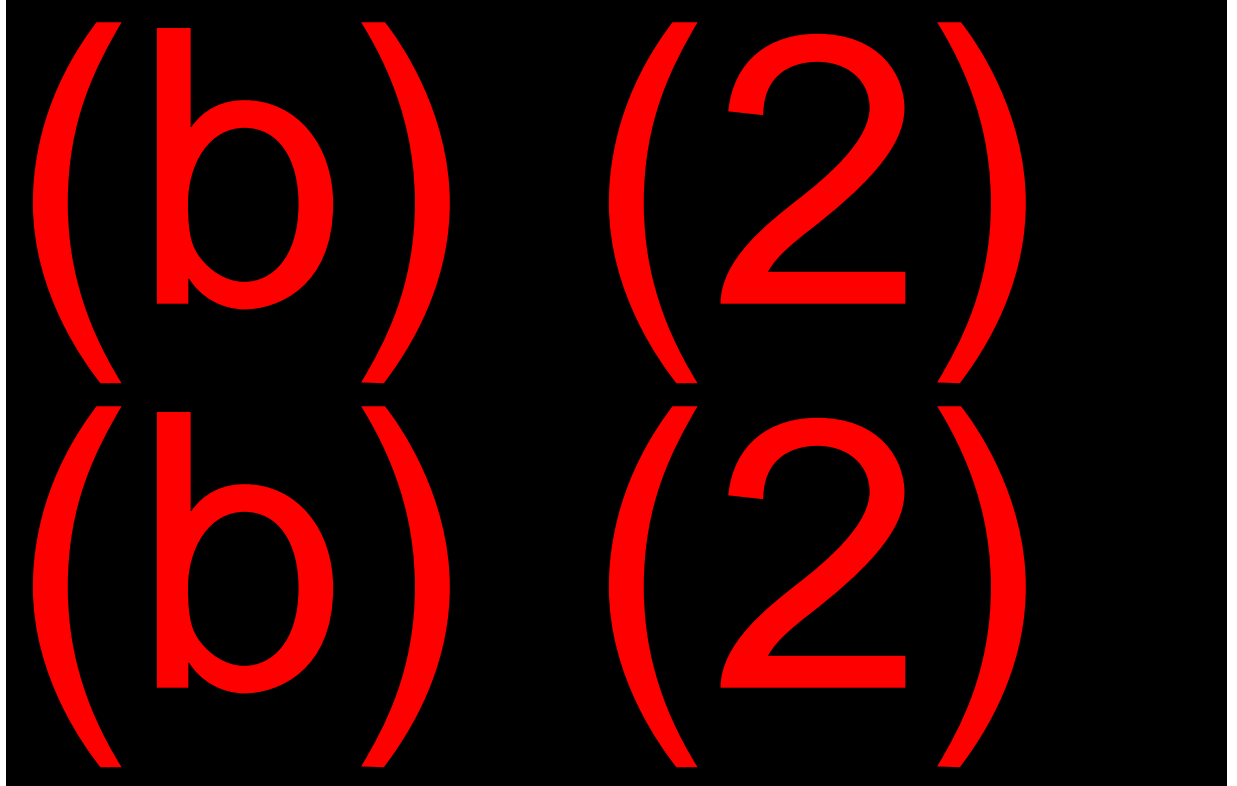
Below is a facsimile of the Special Payments Menu (UPSP) screen.

[MS 00303.007](#)



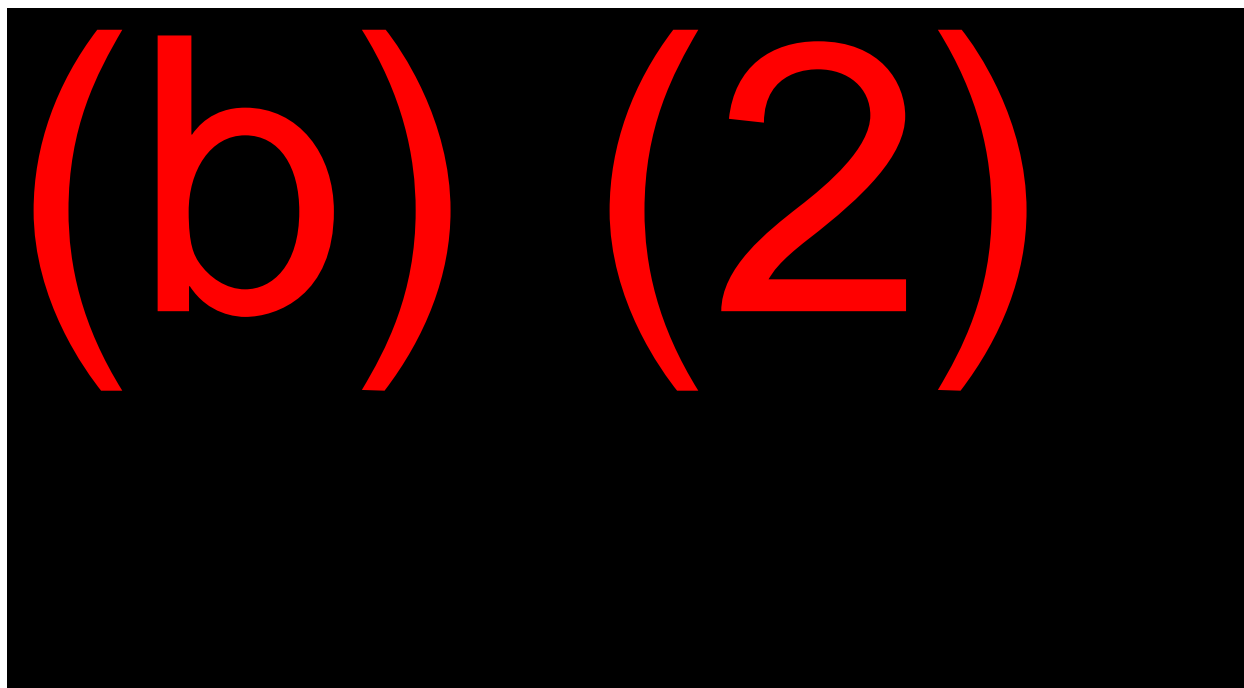
Below is a facsimile of the One Time Payment (UPOT) screen.

[MS 00303.022](#)



Below is a facsimile of the One Time Payment Address (UPOA) screen.

[MS 00303.023](#)



OBJECTIVE 4:**Define and develop SSI underpayments.****General****SI 02101.001****Definition**

An underpayment, including any amounts of State supplementary payments SSA administers, is:

- Nonpayment when payment for a month (or quarter for the period before April 1982) was due;
- Payment of less than the amount due for a month (or quarter for the period before April 1982); or
- A check representing correct payment to an individual who died before the check was negotiated.

What Is Not an Underpayment

The following do not meet the definition of an SSI underpayment:

- Payment where the total amount was correct but there was an error in the composition of the payment (i.e., Federal/State);
- Amounts recovered from a former representative payee and paid to the recipient or a new representative payee as restitution of misused funds;
- Conserved funds returned to SSA after a change of representative payee or after the death of a representative payee or the individual;

- Amounts refunded (cash, check, money order or by title II adjustment) by the individual in excess of the overpaid amount;
- A refund made by a third party in excess of a deceased individual's overpayment;
- An amount returned to SSA by a financial institution representing an erroneous direct deposit when the Treasury Department also reclaims from the institution a not due amount based on a Form SF-1184 stop payment for the same deposit;
- Remaining presumptive disability or presumptive blindness (PD/PB) payments not yet paid when the field office (FO) is notified of the Disability Determination Section (DDS) decision of denial;
- There is a single Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) for an SSI eligible couple.

Underpayment Period

An underpayment can occur only for a period for which an individual applied for benefits and met all conditions of eligibility. The underpayment period is a period under review that begins with the month for which there is a difference between the amount paid and the amount due (either an additional amount due or excess payment or a change in the previously computed amount of either of these). The period ends with the month in which the determination for the period is made.

Disposition of Underpayments

An underpayment may become payable to the:

- State/political subdivision with an interim assistance reimbursement (IAR) authorization with the eligible individual (see [SI 02101.002](#));
- Authorized direct payment of representative fee by SSA;
- Eligible individual;
- Surviving spouse who was the member of an eligible couple (see [SI 02101.005](#));

- Surviving spouse who was not the member of an eligible couple (see [SI 02101.006](#)); or
- Surviving parent or parents (see [SI 02101.007](#)).

An underpayment is not payable to:

- An estate; or
- A claimant, recipient, or terminated recipient while he or she is subject to the No Social Security Benefits for Prisoners (NSSBP) provisions.
- NOTE: For instructions on processing underpayments to claimants and recipients subject to the NSSBP provisions, see [SI 00529.001](#) and [SI 00529.020](#). If the NSSBP provisions do not apply to a Title XVI underpayment due an incarcerated claimant, recipient, or terminated recipient, see [GN 02607.550](#).

Keep in mind that a survivor convicted of a felonious homicide of the deceased (see [GN 00304.060](#)) is not entitled to the underpayment.

Detecting Underpayments

Underpayments may be detected by the system or by a manual computation. Systems-detected underpayments are usually the result of a change input to the SSR that increases the amount due for a past period, or when an application is approved and retroactive payments are due the recipient. The underpayment information is displayed in the miscellaneous payment data (MPMT) line of the SSR. The UPX is the total amount of the underpayment held on SSR. The UPV field contains the excess retroactive payment amount verification code (see [SM 01601.865](#)).

MPMT Segment Display:

MPMT UPX: \$\$\$\$\$.00 UPV: X

Underpayment Review

[SI 02101.025](#)

Prepayment Review

Large SSI underpayments (UPs) must be reviewed to ensure that all factors of eligibility are developed in accordance with POMS instructions. There is an especially high risk of error in these cases because of the large payments.

A prepayment review is a review of the non-disability eligibility factors before authorizing payment.

A prepayment review is required for any SSI case (IC or PE) if an UP of \$5,000 or more is due through the month prior to the current computation month ([SM 02101.001](#) defines the current computation month), unless:

- The case involves Title II offset and the SSI UP “at risk” is less than \$5,000 per [SI 02006.100](#); or
- The case is a low risk case (LRC) as described in [SI 02101.025C.2](#).

Both an adjudicator and a reviewer perform the prepayment review. An adjudicator is a claims specialist or above, who performs the prepayment review. The adjudicator can be the person who made the original determination. A reviewer is a claims specialist or above, and is someone other than the adjudicator. The reviewer examines the file after the adjudicator has completed the prepayment review, but before the release of the UP. The reviewer completes the MSSICS UOUP screen to release UP. The UOUP screen will be addressed later in this objective.

How the System Processes UPs of \$5,000 - \$49,999.99

When the system computes an UP of \$5,000 - \$49,999.99, it holds the UP and sets a U2 diary until the FO authorizes release of the UP.

After review, the FO provides authorization for release of the UP through the UOUP screen, which is accessed through Direct SSR Update. The UP will be released unless the case meets the criteria for:

- Installment only payments (the system will automatically release the payments);
- Dedicated account cases (the system will set all appropriate diaries, issue an alert and release an automated notice to the representative payee); or
- Direct payment to an authorized representative.

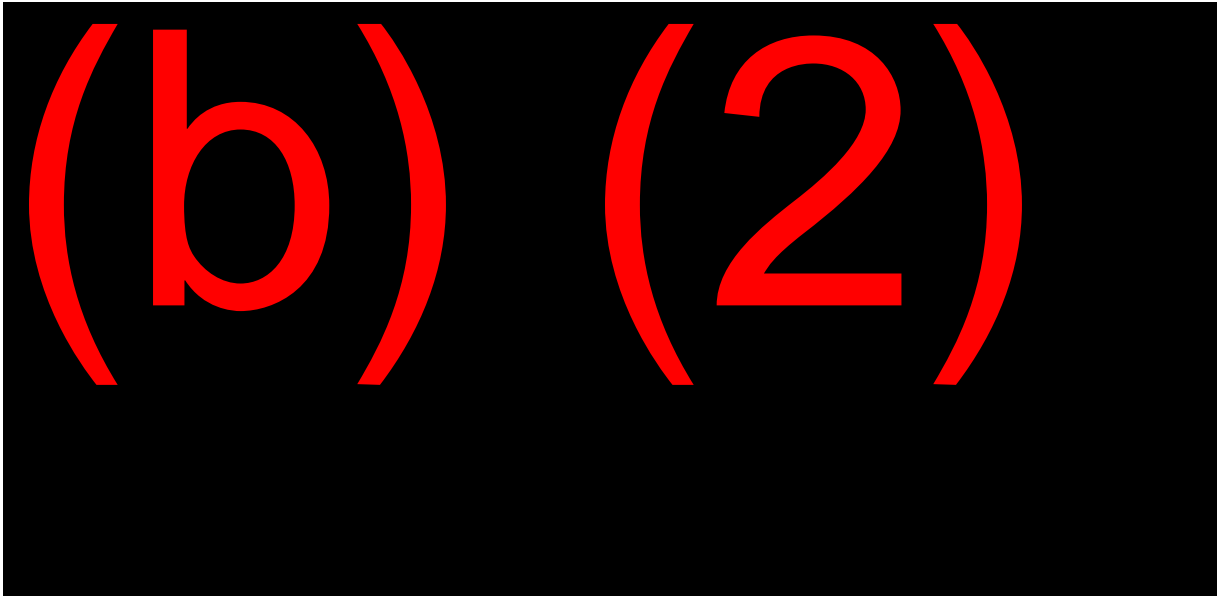
NOTE: For UPs of \$50,000 or more, see [SI 02101.055](#).

To Release an Underpayment in the SSI Claims System

- Use Direct SSR Update.
- Select Underpayment Processing on the UMEN screen.
- On the UOUP screen enter the number of the appropriate action.

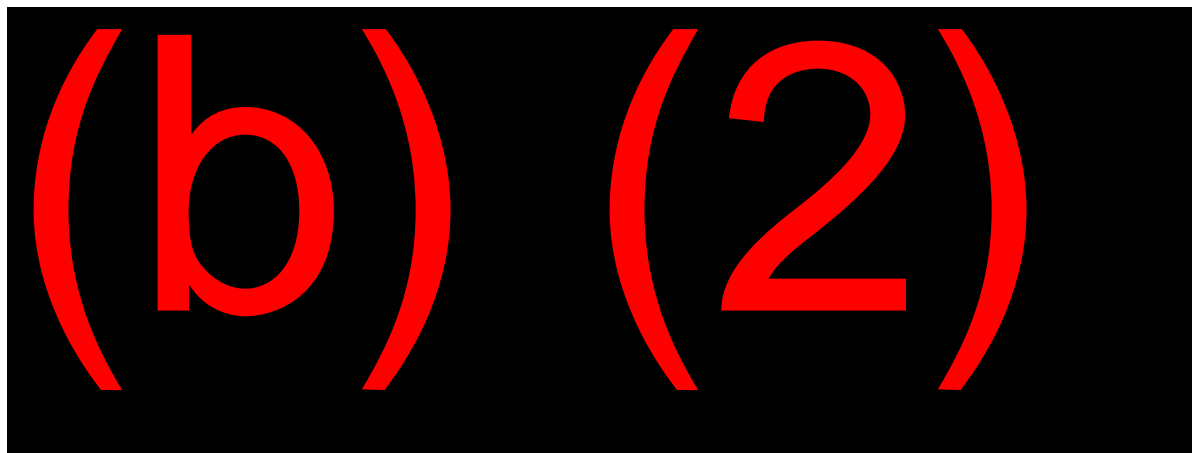
Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Underpayment Menu (UMEN) Screen.

[MS 00302.003](#)



Below is a facsimile of the MSSICS Underpayment Processing (UOUP) Screen.

[MS 00304.018](#)



OBJECTIVE 5:

**Determine to whom an underpayment
may be issued.**

Individual Alive**[SI 02101.002](#)****To Whom Payable**

If an underpayment exists and the recipient is alive, pay the underpayment to the recipient, or his/her representative payee, after considering:

- IAR
- Direct Payment of Representative fee
- A collectible Overpayment
- IAR: Benefits will be paid to a State/political subdivision with a written authorization rather than to the individual when IAR is involved.
- Direct payment of fees to authorized representative (effective 2/28/05). See [GN 03920.000](#), [GN 03930.000](#), [GN 03940.000](#), [GN 03920.017](#).

Note: Do not pay a current or former recipient an underpayment if he or she is subject to the No Social Security Benefit for Prisoners Act (NSSBP). A current or former recipient is subject to the NSSBP if we determine he or she is a prisoner, confined to a public institution based on a court order for a criminal act, a fugitive felon, or in violation of parole or probation. See [SI 00529.001](#) for more information on the NSSBP.

Individual in Current Pay

The SSI system will compute and pay an underpayment based on data received.

The system will automatically release an underpayment below \$5,000 (see [SI 02101.025](#)) unless:

- An overpayment collect decision is present on the SSR;
- Direct payment of authorized representative's fees is authorized (effective 2/28/05). See [GN 03920.000](#), [GN 03930.000](#), and [GN 03940.000](#);
- A dedicated account is required; or
- The underpayment has been withheld on the UOUP screen through the UNDERPAYMENT PROCESSING option from Direct SSR Update (UMEN) [MS 00304.018](#) and [SM 01311.355](#) (see [SI 02101.002](#));
- The total underpayment amount is less than \$1.

Individual in Nonpayment Status

If an individual is currently ineligible, an automated one-time payment (AOTP) may be needed to pay the underpayment. In certain situations, the system will release the underpayment on records in nonpayment status. (See [SM 01311.660](#) for exceptions.)

Individual Deceased

[SI 02101.003](#)

To Whom Payable

Unless the exception below applies, after considering any overpayments and penalties that may be collectible (for the deceased and/or survivor), an underpayment may be paid to:

- A state or political subdivision with written IAR authorization (see [SI 02101.004](#)); and then
- An authorized representative eligible for direct payment provided there is another party (i.e., a state for IAR or survivor) eligible to receive all or part of the underpayment (see [GN 03940.009](#));
- A surviving spouse who was a member of an eligible couple in the month of death (see [SI 02101.005](#));
- Spouse who was not a member of an eligible couple (see [SI 02101.006](#)); and/or
- Parent(s) of a deceased individual who was a blind or disabled child at the time an underpayment occurred (see [SI 02101.007](#)).

EXCEPTION: As stated in [SI 02101.002](#), when direct payment of a representative's fee is involved, the priority of payment order is: IAR; direct payment of a representative fee; and then recovery of a prior overpayment.

Time Limit

A survivor (other than an SSI eligible spouse) will have 24 months after the individual's month of death to request an underpayment that may be payable.

NOTE: The 24-month timeframe would not apply in situations where the Agency has been mandated to take action by a court (e.g., Zebley or ALJ reversals).

Proof Required

Proof of death is required to establish that an underpayment can be paid to a survivor.

Proof of relationship is required before release of an underpayment.

DO NOT pay an underpayment if development of any factor of eligibility is incomplete.

NOTE: When a claimant is alive, payment can be made on unverified information in certain circumstances (e.g., income estimates) and the information verified post-adjudicatively. Do not base payment on unverified information when the claimant is deceased.

OBJECTIVE 6:**Understand installment payments
and dedicated accounts.****Installment Payments****[SI 02101.020](#)****Installments**

Amounts (including any federally administered State supplement) subject to the installment payment requirement include:

- Benefits due but unpaid that accrued prior to the month payment was effectuated;
- Benefits due but unpaid that accrued during a period of suspension for which the recipient was subsequently determined to have been eligible; and
- Any adjustment to benefits that results in an accrual of unpaid benefits.

The installment payment requirement applies when an individual (or eligible couple) is eligible for past-due SSI benefits (plus any federally administered state supplement) in an amount that (after reimbursement for interim assistance (IA) and/or direct payment of representative fees) equals or exceeds three times the current maximum individual FBR (or for an eligible couple, the current couple FBR), plus the individual's (or eligible couple's) current federally administered State supplement.

Installment payments must be paid in no more than three payments. Each payment is made at 6-month intervals. Each of the first and second installment payments cannot exceed three times the FBR (plus any federally administered State supplement), unless the exception for increasing the installment amount applies (see [SI 02101.020](#)). The first and second installment payment should each be for this maximum amount

if the balance due equals or exceeds this amount. The third (and final) installment payment includes the remainder of the past-due benefits.

Exceptions

At the time of the past-due benefit eligibility determination or during the installment process, installment payments are not required for an individual:

- Who has a medical condition that is expected to result in death within 12 months; or
- Who is no longer eligible for SSI and is determined likely to remain ineligible for the next 12 months.

If the conditions above apply to an SSI individual, the past-due benefits should be paid in full.

Systems Processing and Notices for Installments

Systems Processing

For installment only cases for which no prepayment review is required or prepayment review has been completed, the system determines if installments are required. If so, the system:

1. Issues the first installment to the individual of 3 X current (FBR + OSS);
2. Posts a UPV of 2 to the record;
3. Posts an '8' to pay flag 5 indicating the first installment made; and
4. Generates a notice explaining the installment provisions and amount of installment.

The system-generated second installment is made in six months and system:

- Posts a '9' to pay flag 5 if there is a final third installment to be paid; or
- Posts a 'Z' to pay flag 5 if this payment is final installment payment; and
- Issues the appropriate notice explaining the installment payment.

Dedicated Accounts

[SI 02101.010](#)

Past Due Benefits Paid to a Dedicated Accounts

Effective August 1996, after any Interim Assistance (IA) reimbursement payment and/or direct payment of representative fees, any payment that exceeds six times the Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) plus any Optional State Supplement (OSS) that is issued to the representative payee of an eligible individual under age 18, must be paid into a dedicated account at a financial institution.

The amount of past-due benefits required for payment to a dedicated account must exceed six times the FBR plus OSS (after reimbursement for IA and/or direct payment for representative fees).

A dedicated account is a separate account in a financial institution that must be established by a representative payee prior to the release of the past-due benefits. SSA will directly deposit the past-due benefits into this account.

This account is called a "dedicated account" because it must be separately maintained and may only be used by the representative payee for certain expenditures.

IF...	THEN...
After reimbursement for IA and/or direct payment for representative fees, the past-due benefit is not equal to or greater than 3 X (FBR + OSS)	Normal underpayment rules apply and the past-due benefits are released by the system or offset for a collectible overpayment.
After reimbursement for IA and/or direct payment for representative fees, the past-due benefit equals or exceeds 3 X (FBR + OSS) but does not exceed 6 X (FBR + OSS)	Installment provisions (SI 02101.020) apply and the past-due benefits are released in installment payments by the system or offset for a collectible overpayment. A dedicated account is not required. This change is for past-due benefits payable on or after May 22, 2006.
After reimbursement for IA and/or direct payment of representative fees, the past-due benefits are greater than 6 X (FBR + OSS)	These payments must be made in installments at 6-month intervals, in addition to the requirement that they be deposited in a dedicated account. For installment requirements, see SI 02101.020 .
In the previous scenario, a dedicated account is not opened by the representative payee	SSA cannot release the past-due benefits to the representative payee. Determine the need for new payee (GN 00504.100).
If the disabled/blind individual dies prior to the establishment of the dedicated account	Follow normal underpayment rules in SI 02101.001 to determine if and to whom the past-due benefits may be paid.
The disabled/blind individual dies after the establishment of a dedicated account	SSA has no authority over this account upon the death of the recipient. It is part of the deceased individual's estate.
An SSI recipient attains age 18 prior to the determination of eligibility for the past-due benefits	Dedicated account provisions do not apply. Normal underpayment rules apply. Installments may apply.
An SSI recipient is under age 18 but does not have a representative payee	Dedicated account rules do not apply. Normal underpayment rules apply. Installments may apply.

Permitted Expenditures

[GN 00602.140](#)

Allowed Use of Dedicated Account Funds

A payee is allowed to use dedicated account funds for:

- Medical treatment; and
- Education or job skills training.

Allowed Use for Expenses Related to Child's Impairment

A payee is allowed to use dedicated account funds for the following, if they benefit the child and are related to the child's impairment:

- Personal needs assistance;
- Special equipment;
- Housing modification;
- Therapy or rehabilitation; and

Other items or services SSA determines appropriate. (See [GN 00602.140](#) for examples.)

NOTE: Dedicated account rules continue to apply until the funds are depleted or benefit eligibility terminates. This means if the recipient attains age 18 and continues to be eligible, then dedicated account rules still apply.

Systems Processing and Notices for Dedicated Accounts

Systems Processing

In dedicated account cases, the system:

- Posts a UPV of 'B' in the MPMT segment of the SSR;
- Sets an EA diary with a 30-day maturity date; and
- Releases an automated notice to the representative payee.

Dedicated Account Opened

Once the dedicated account is properly set up:

- FO A-OTPs first installment payment of 3 X (FBR+OSS) into dedicated account;
- EA diary is removed;
- An IN diary is set with a maturity date of 6 months in the future;
- A 4N entry is placed in payment history and '1' in pay flag 5; and
- An automated notice is generated explaining the payment of the installment into the dedicated account.

Dedicated Account and Next Installment Due

When the IN diary matures, an alert (I6) is sent to the FO to notify them to issue the next installment into the dedicated account. Then, the

- FO A-OTPs (using the UPSP Menu, UPOT screen) installment payment of 3 X (FBR+OSS) into the dedicated account;
- An IN diary is reset with a maturity date of 6 months in the future, if a third and final payment is due; and

- A 4N entry is placed in (PMTH) and pay flag 5 is updated with a '2' to show that the second installment was issued.
- If this second installment was also the final payment an 'F' is posted to pay flag '5'.

Dedicated Account and Third Installment, If Needed

- If a third and final installment is due, once the IN diary matures, the I6 is sent to the FO notifying them it is time to issue the next installment into the dedicated account.
- The FO issues the remaining underpayment (regardless of the amount) to the dedicated account.
- A 4N entry is placed in PMTH and an 'F' is built in pay flag '5'.
- IN diary is deleted; and
- Notices are automated.

NOTE: Follow the steps given in [SI 02101.065](#) when issuing a manual notice for installments and dedicated account payments.

EXHIBIT 1: SSI UNDERPAYMENT CASE CONTROL LOG

SI 02101.110

The following exhibit shows an example of an underpayment case control log that may be used in the underpayment review process.

UNDERPAYMENT CASE CONTROL LOG

Name	SSN	Date to Reviewer	Returned for Development	Development Completed

UNDERPAYMENT CASE CONTROL LOG (Cont.)

Name	Review Completed	Date of Input	Date of Payment	Comments

EXHIBIT 2: SSA-552, DEDICATED ACCOUNT USE OF FUNDS STATEMENT

SI 02101.200

DEDICATED ACCOUNT USE OF FUNDS STATEMENT

Name (Child)

Social Security Number:

Name (Representative Payee):

I am the representative payee for the disabled child under the age of 18 identified above. I understand that the law says I have to open a separate account at a financial institution for certain, large SSI checks that I may get on behalf of the child. This account is called a “dedicated” account because I can only use money in this account to pay for items and services as described below.

I also understand funds in the dedicated account do not count in determining the child's eligibility for SSI payments but if I deposit unauthorized funds into the dedicated account the child's eligibility for SSI may be affected.

1. I May Use Money From The Dedicated Account For

- Medical treatment and education or job skills training; or
- Items and services related to the child's impairment that benefit the child such as:
 - Personal needs assistance (for example, in-home nursing care);
 - Special equipment;
 - Housing modifications;

- Therapy or rehabilitation; or
- Other items or services related to the child's impairment like legal fees incurred by the child in establishing a claim for disabled child's benefits.

NOTE: If you are uncertain as to whether or not an expenditure is allowed, you should seek SSA's approval before making the expenditure.

2. I May Not Use Money From The Dedicated Account For

- Basic maintenance costs such as for food, housing, clothing and personal items that are not related to the child's impairment;
- Repayment of an SSI overpayment; and
- Any other items not listed above that are not related to the child's impairment.

NOTE: In emergency situations, the Social Security Administration (SSA) may approve use of dedicated account funds for basic living expenses to prevent the child from becoming homeless or malnourished.

3. If You Have Any Questions

If you have any questions whether the money from the dedicated account may be used for a specific item or service, please call, write or visit your local Social Security Office.

Please read the following information carefully, before signing this statement:

The restrictions on the use of dedicated account funds will continue to apply until all account funds are spent or the child's eligibility for benefits terminates.

I understand how dedicated account funds can and cannot be used and I agree to:

1. Use the money in the dedicated account only for items and services approved under the law or by SSA;

2. Use the regular monthly SSI benefit payment for the child's basic needs for food, housing, clothing, and personal items;
3. Keep records and receipts of how money from the dedicated account was used and any deposits made into the account for at least 2 years;
4. Complete the Representative Payee Report Of Benefits And Dedicated Account (SSA-6233-BK) on the use of dedicated account funds;
5. Provide SSA with an explanation of any item or service purchased if requested;
6. Use my own funds to repay any money to SSA that I knowingly used from this dedicated account for anything other than the items and services approved under the law or by SSA; and
7. Return all funds remaining in the dedicated account to SSA if I stop serving as payee.

SIGNATURE

DATE

OFF-AIR ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Determine when to issue an SSI Emergency Advance Payment (EAP) and apply the basic EAP procedure.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #1.
- Trainees should review Form SSA-8102 and how it should be completed.

OBJECTIVE 2: Determine when to issue an Immediate Payment (IP) and apply the basic IP procedure.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #2.
- Trainees should read [SI 02004.100](#) and review the differences between EAP and IP.
- Trainees should complete Exercise #3.

OBJECTIVE 3: Use the one-time payment (OTP) procedure, identify when OTP is appropriate and determine when to release the payment.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #4.
- Trainees should become familiar with the necessary criteria that must be met before a one-time payment can be issued.
- Trainees should be told of any local office procedures regarding the OTP process (who signs off on the OTP, etc.).

OBJECTIVE 4: Define and develop SSI underpayments.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #5.

- Trainees should review SSID's to be able to recognize underpayments.

OBJECTIVE 5: Determine to whom an underpayment may be issued.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #6.
- Trainees should review [SI 02101.002](#) and [SI 02101.025](#).

OBJECTIVE 6: Installment payments and dedicated accounts.

- Trainees should complete Exercise #7.
- Trainees should review the criteria/requirements for dedicated accounts.
- Trainees should be advised of any local policies followed for the release of installments and dedicated accounts.

EXERCISES

Exercise #1

Work through the following problems.

1. Charles Pearson visits the FO and alleges he has no money at all and cannot pay his rent. An SSI3 query indicates his SSI payments have been suspended due to lack of correct address. Would you consider an emergency advance payment (EAP)? Why?
2. Shirley Matson calls the FO to request financial help as she is in dire need. She applied for SSI three weeks ago and the DDS has not yet made a medical determination on her case. She is not presumptively disabled. Would an emergency advance payment be appropriate? Why?
3. You live in a state with no federally administered state supplement. You have decided to make an emergency advance payment to Diane Riggins, who is at your desk and whose effective date of application is 8 months ago. The DDS considers her to be presumptively disabled. She insists she needs at least \$800 immediately. What would you do first?
4. Ms. Riggins agrees to an EAP of \$100. You have verified that the EAP may be issued. Must any form(s) be completed before you give Ms. Riggins her \$100 EAP? If yes, what form(s)?
5. Ms. Riggins thanks you for the EAP and leaves the FO. Three weeks later, you learn that the DDS has denied Ms. Riggins claim on medical grounds. She receives her denial notice and calls to ask if repayment of her EAP is required. What would you tell her?

Exercise #2

Work through the following problems.

1. Bob Martin filed a claim for Title XVI payments in February. (He was not insured for Title II benefits.) Mr. Martin received presumptive disability payments for 2 months, but his claim was then denied because no disability was established. Mr. Martin filed a reconsideration and, upon review, the disability denial was reversed.

You completed an update on January 30, 20YY of the non-disability factors of entitlement and determined that Mr. Martin is due \$1,200 in retroactive SSI payments. As Mr. Martin is leaving the interview, he mentions that he needs his money right away because he's "broke" and owes \$1,000 in past-due rent. He is about to be evicted from his apartment.

- a. What action(s) do you take?
 - b. Assuming you decide to authorize an IP, what form(s) do you complete?
2. Same situation as #1 above, except that Mr. Martin has filed for both Title II and Title XVI and at the same time of the IP interview both payments are immediately payable (final systems input has not yet been made for either title). Against which payments will the IP be issued?
 3. Carol Jennings visits the office on October 16. She receives SSI payments of \$200 per month (no state supplementary payment). She does not receive Title II payments. She tells you that she reported non-receipt of her October SSI check on October 3, but has received no replacement check or correspondence from the Treasury Department. She further states that she has not received her SSI check on time on three different occasions and that if immediate action is not taken, she is going to contact her Congressman. You verify that no IP has previously been issued.

What actions should you take?

Exercise #3

The purpose of this exercise is to provide trainees with a better understanding of the differences in Emergency Advanced Payment (EAP) and Immediate Payments (IP). Trainees should use the information contained within each square below to determine whether the corresponding blanks should be completed with either EAP or IP.

Financial emergency, Presumptively eligible or proven eligible and not paid in any way *	SI 02004.005 *	Can be paid in initial claims or post eligibility *	Available from SSI only *
Paid one time per claim *	Recovered from first regular payment *	Authorized by a decision by the Commissioner *	SI 02004.100 *
Authorized by Section 1631(a) of the Social Security Act* *	Paid as Needed* *	Priority is EAP before IP* *	Maximum amount is the Federal benefit rate plus State Supplementary Payment level *
Available from SSI and/or Title II* *	Maximum amount is \$999 total Title II and SSI *	Recovered in 6 monthly installments; or all at once from a retroactive payment *	Can be paid in Initial Claims only* *

Exercise #4

Select the correct answer(s) to the following questions:

1. In which of the following situations would the OTP process be used:
 - a. Fifteen days have elapsed since the change was reported that would affect payment and your SSA-1719-B has been rejected because of a teletype error.
 - b. Goldberg/Kelly payment continuation is required and due process appeals data input is processed after the supplemental payment cutoff.
 - c. The claimant's checks have been erroneously terminated and either OTP or SSA-1719-B automated input should release him a check within 10 days.
2. In which of the following situations can an A-OTP be issued? Choose all that apply.
 - a. A record is in T50 and the number holder is due a check.
 - b. A disabled individual's spouse has become eligible and is due a payment.
 - c. A record is in PSY none, 30 days have elapsed, and the individual is due a payment.
 - d. A record is in denial status on the SSR, 30 days have elapsed, and the individual is eligible for a payment.
 - e. An individual is filing a nonreceipt. There is no hardship.
3. When you have the choice to issue an M-OTP or an A-OTP, the preferred method is to issue an M-OTP. **True or False**

Exercise #5

Indicate Yes or No: Which situation meets the definition of an SSI underpayment?

1. Conserved funds returned by a former payee. ____
2. Refund made by a third party in excess of a deceased individual's overpayment. ____

3. A check representing correct payment to an individual who died before the check was negotiated. ____
4. Nonpayment when payment for a month was due. ____

Exercise #6

1. John and Mary filed for SSI as a disabled couple eight months ago. Both are approved by DDS. When the PERC is conducted, it is revealed that John died last month. The couple is due a \$1680.00 underpayment in retroactive benefits (\$840.00 due each member). Mary will be paid her retroactive benefits of \$840.00. Can John's underpayment be issued? _____
2. If John's underpayment can be issued, to whom can it be paid?
3. Joann, an SSI DC, dies after her PERC is conducted, but before her retroactive benefits are paid. Joann's aunt Jenny, her representative payee, inquires about the underpayment due Joann. Can Joann's underpayment be sent to her representative payee? Why or why not?

Exercise #7

1. State whether each of the following underpayments must be paid in installments.
 - a. \$250.00 due an SSIAI
 - b. \$5,249.00 due an SSIDI
 - c. \$1,915.00 due an SSIDS
 - d. \$1,856.00 due an SSIDC
2. Mary Carolyn is 17 ½ when her SSI claim is approved. She is due \$6,500.00 in retroactive benefits when her PERC is completed. How much will be sent in her first retroactive check?
3. Must Mary Carolyn's first check be sent to a dedicated account? Why or why not?

EXERCISE ANSWERS**Exercise #1**

1. No. Emergency advance payments may be made only in initial claims situations.
2. No. Ms. Matson is not presumptively disabled or proven eligible.
3. Explain to Ms. Riggins that the amount of an emergency advance payment is limited to the applicable FBR.
4. Yes. An SSA-8102 (Advance Payment Receipt and Notice) must be completed.
5. Repayment is not required in this case, as Ms. Riggins' application was denied based on a medical factor.

Exercise #2

1.
 - a. You should question Mr. Martin to determine if there exists any means of alleviating his financial emergency. If no other alternatives exist, you should consider issuing him an IP of up to \$999.00. (No EAP can be made due to his presumptive disability payments.)
 - b. SSA-8102
2. Title II if it covers the entire amount of the IP.
3. If you determine that a potential adverse PR situation does in fact exist, you should verify that a history of double check negotiation does not exist. If not, consider issuing an IP of up to \$200.

Exercise #3

Financial emergency, Presumptively eligible or proven eligible and not paid in any way <u>*EAP</u>	SI 02004.005 <u>* EAP</u>	Can be paid in initial claims or post eligibility <u>*IP</u>	Available from SSI only <u>*EAP</u>
Paid one time per claim <u>*EAP</u>	Recovered from first regular payment <u>*IP</u>	Authorized by a decision by the Commissioner <u>*IP</u>	SI 02004.100 <u>*IP</u>
Authorized by Section 1631(a) of the Social Security Act <u>*EAP</u>	Paid as Needed <u>*IP</u>	Priority is EAP before IP <u>*EAP</u>	Maximum amount is the Federal benefit rate plus State Supplementary Payment level <u>*EAP</u>
Available from SSI and/or Title II <u>*IP</u>	Maximum amount is \$999 total Title II and SSI <u>*IP</u>	Recovered in 6 monthly installments; or all at once from a retroactive payment <u>*EAP</u>	Can be paid in Initial Claims only <u>*EAP</u>

Exercise #4

1. B.
2. B, C, D.
3. False.

Exercise #5

1. No.
2. No.
3. Yes.
4. Yes.

Exercise #6

1. Yes.
2. Mary as the surviving eligible spouse.
3. No, as Jenny is not Joann's surviving parent.

Exercise #7

1. a. No.
b. Yes.
c. No.
d. No.
2. \$ 2205.00.
3. Yes, as she is under age 18 and her underpayment is required to be sent via direct deposit into a dedicated account at a financial institution.

FEEDBACK SHEET

Request to the Participant

As you use this training package, please make a note of errors to be corrected and/or revisions needed. At the completion of this segment, this form should be mailed to the Office of Learning at the address on the next page.

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Topics

Is there any material in this module that is covered but not relevant to your position and should be removed? If so, what?

Can you identify any topic that is not covered in this module and should be included?

Complexity Level

Are there any modules that appear either too simple or too complex? Which ones? Why?

Exercises

Please rate the usefulness of the exercises.

1	2	3	4	5
Irrelevant		Adequate		Quite helpful

Please note your corrections below or attach a photocopy of corrected pages.

<u>Page #</u>	<u>Correction Needed</u>
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Use the space below for your comments on how we can improve this material.

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