



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN G. OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for Human Services

August 9, 2022

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Work First Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds Supplemental Benefit Payment for Active Work First Cash Assistance Households

Priority: Information Only

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 into law (Public Law 117-2). This law establishes the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund (PEAF) in section 403(c) of the Social Security Act (the Act). The PEAF provides funding to states to assist needy families impacted by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

Due to the continued economic impact of COVID-19 in North Carolina, the NC General Assembly approved ARPA-PEAF funding to provide a supplemental payment to eligible Work First households. This funding is intended to provide extra cash for families to cover added costs due to the pandemic and to purchase clothing, school supplies including technology devices, and personal protective equipment.

In accordance with this legislative action, the Department of Health and Human Services will be issuing a supplemental payment of \$523.30 for each eligible child.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

The PEAF supplemental payment will include children receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and children excluded from the Work First Cash assistance payment due to the Family CAP.

The calculated benefit amount to households is based on the number of eligible children for households that:

1. Applied for Work First Cash Assistance prior to May 1, 2022;
2. Were approved for Work First Cash Assistance and will receive a Work First Cash Assistance payment for May 2022.

III. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

No action is required. Notices will be sent to eligible households on August 9, 2022, with supplemental payments being issued August 12, 2022. PEAF supplemental payments are not subject to Program Integrity claims.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective upon receipt.

If you have any questions, please submit them to the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team at dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Carla West, Senior Director for Human Services
Division of Aging and Adult Services
Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services, Child Support Services

CW/rjs

EFS-WF-07-2022