

2180 - RIGHT FROM THE START MEDICAID OVERVIEW

POLICY STATEMENT	Right from the Start Medicaid (RSM) provides Medicaid to eligible children through the month in which the child turns 19 years of age and to pregnant women who meet RSM eligibility criteria. Income limits for this COA are based on percentages of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	<p>Because of the less restrictive program requirements, Medicaid applicants who are RSM eligible should be approved under RSM, regardless of their eligibility under another Medicaid COA, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newborn Medicaid• Low Income Medicaid (LIM)• Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA)• Four Months Extended Medicaid because of Child Support Income (4MCS)• IV-E Foster Care
Basic Eligibility Criteria	<p>The following basic eligibility requirements must be met to qualify for RSM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age <p>EXCEPTION: There is no age requirement for pregnant women. A RSM child can be eligible through the last day of the month of the nineteenth (19th) birthday. A Child Welfare Foster Care (CWFC) child may be eligible until age 21.</p> <p>Refer to Section 2255, Age.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for Other Benefits <p>EXCEPTION: Application for SSI is not required. Application for other benefits is not a requirement for RSM PgW coverage.</p> <p>NOTE: If a pregnant woman is receiving Medicaid in a LIM AU and does not comply with Application for Other Benefits, she may receive Medicaid under RSM-PgW COA in which Application for Other Benefits is not a requirement.</p> <p>Refer to Section 2210, Application for Other Benefits.</p>

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS****Basic Eligibility
Criteria (cont.)**

- Enumeration

NOTE: Enumeration is not a requirement for Emergency Medical assistance (EMA). Refer to Section 2054, EMA.

Refer to [Section 2220](#), Enumeration.

- Citizenship/Alienage

NOTE: Citizenship/alienage is not a requirement for Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA). Refer to Section [2054](#), EMA.

- Residency

Refer to [Section 2225](#), Residency.

- Third Party Resources

NOTE: This includes TPR information on the reputed or legal father of an existing child.

Refer to [Section 2230](#), TPR.

- Cooperation with the Office of Child Support Services (OCSS)

EXCEPTION: A referral to and cooperation with CSS is **NOT** a requirement for RSM PgW COA or for child-only Medicaid cases

A child-only Medicaid case is defined as a Medicaid AU in which no adults are receiving Medicaid under the child's case or under any related case. An AU that contains a penalized adult is **NOT** considered a child-only case.

Refer to [Section 2250](#), Child Support Services.

Refer to [Section 2851](#), Child Support Referrals (IV-E) for policy regarding children in placement.

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)****Financial Eligibility
Criteria**

Resources are not considered in determining eligibility for RSM.

RSM income limits are based on percentages of the FPL. Refer to [Appendix A2](#), Financial Limits for Family Medicaid.

The income of a person not included in the RSM BG (such as, but not limited to stepparents, parents of a pregnant minor who is budgeted as an adult, parents of a minor caretaker or children voluntarily excluded) is not budgeted.

Verification

Verification of income is obtained in the following order:

- The A/R should provide verification from the payment source
- If the A/R cannot obtain the verification, the agency must request it directly from the payment source
- Verification can be obtained from a collateral source if verification cannot be provided by the payment source.

The statement of the A/R may be accepted if all other attempts to verify income are unsuccessful and the A/R has cooperated with previous attempts to obtain verification. Refer to [Section 2051](#), Verification.

NOTE: Client statement of income is acceptable for RSM Pregnant Woman and Newborn unless questionable.

**Other
Considerations**

A pregnant minor in a RSM case can be budgeted as an adult pregnant woman or as a minor child. If budgeted as a minor child, do not budget the unborn child.