

**2170 - FOUR MONTHS EXTENDED MEDICAID BECAUSE
OF CHILD SUPPORT INCOME**

POLICY STATEMENT	Four Months Extended Medicaid Because of Child Support (4MCS) provides 4 months of Medicaid coverage for a LIM AU which has become ineligible because of the receipt of child support.
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	<p>4MCS is available to an AU that becomes ineligible for LIM because of an increase in child support or a concurrent increase of child support and other income.</p> <p>An AU with earned income that becomes ineligible for LIM because of concurrent increase child support and earned income has the option of receiving TMA or 4MCS. It is, however to the AU's advantage to receive TMA instead of 4MCS if earned income exists because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TMA eligibility period is up to 12 months as opposed to the 4 month 4MCS eligibility period• if the AU elects to receive 4MCS and subsequently becomes ineligible, Medicaid cannot be reinstated under TMA. <p>The AU must have correctly received LIM in three of the six months preceding the first month of LIM ineligibility. Refer to Section 2162, LIM, for criteria for correctly receiving LIM.</p> <p>LIM ineligibility may be a result of an increase in child support and a concurrent change. If the concurrent change alone caused LIM ineligibility, the AU is ineligible for 4MCS.</p> <p>Increased child support is defined as any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the initial receipt of child support• an increase in the amount of child support received• the receipt of an additional child support payment. <p>If the AU receives a back payment of child support, the lump sum is budgeted as income in the month of receipt unless the accumulation is because of an administrative procedure or error.</p> <p>The child support may be received directly from the absent parent (AP), through DCSS or another source such as Clerk of the Court.</p> <p>If LIM ineligibility results when adding a child with child support to a LIM AU, 4MCS can be approved for the entire AU.</p>

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)****Reporting**

The AU must report the increase in child support within 10 days of receiving the income. If the AU fails to report the change within 10 days of receipt of the increase, the eligibility worker (EW) must determine when the change should have been effective based on the 10 day reporting requirement.

The EW must make the change as soon as possible, but no later than 10 days after the report. If LIM ineligibility results from the increase in child support income, 4MCS eligibility begins the first month following the expiration of timely notice.

**Ongoing
Eligibility**

Once 4MCS eligibility is established, the AU does not have to continue to receive child support in each of the four months to remain eligible.

A notice is sent at the beginning of the four month extended period specifying the months of eligibility under 4MCS. No notice is required at the end of the four month period.

An AU that becomes eligible for LIM during the 4MCS eligibility period has the option of receiving LIM or 4MCS. If the AU elects to receive LIM and subsequently becomes ineligible, Medicaid cannot be reinstated for the remainder of the original 4MCS period. However, if the reason for LIM ineligibility would again qualify the AU for 4MCS, a new 4MCS eligibility period may be established.

4MCS is available **only** to the individuals whose needs were included in the AU at the time of LIM ineligibility because of the receipt of child support. Any individual who moves into the home during the 4MCS eligibility period is **ineligible** for 4MCS, however s/he may qualify for another Medicaid COA.

EXCEPTION: If the individual who moves into the home was previously a member of the 4MCS AU, the individual **may** be added. Refer to Chart 2170.1 in this section.

PROCEDURES

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| | Follow the steps below to establish Medicaid eligibility for the AU under 4MCS. |
| Step 1 | Determine the amount of child support, the date of first receipt and the date reported by the AU. |
| Step 2 | Determine LIM ineligibility because of child support income or child support income in combination with other income, but not the other income alone. |
| Step 3 | Establish that the AU correctly received LIM in three of the six months preceding the first month of ineligibility for LIM. |
| Step 4 | Terminate LIM and approve 4MCS for the AU effective the month following the expiration of timely notice. |
| Step 5 | Notify the A/R of the change, specifying the four months of Medicaid eligibility under 4MCS and the individuals covered. |
| Step 6 | At the end of the four month eligibility period, complete a CMD and notify the AU. |

Use the following chart to determine the action to be taken because of changes in the AU during the Four Months Extended Medicaid time period.

CHART 2170.1, CHANGES IN AU DURING FOUR MONTHS EXTENDED MEDICAID		
IF	THEN discontinue 4MCS for	AND reinstate 4MCS effective
the individual whose income qualified the AU for 4MCS leaves the home OR the only child in the AU leaves the home	the entire AU and complete a CMD. NOTE: If the only child leaves the home, provide a copy of the Medicaid Certification to the adult with whom the child is now living while a CMD is being completed. Use the existing case number during this time.	the month the individual returns, only if there are months remaining in the original 4MCS time period and all eligibility requirements are met.
any other AU member leaves the home	the individual leaving the AU	the month the individual returns to the AU, only if there are months remaining in the original 4MCS eligibility period and all eligibility requirements are met.
the entire AU leaves Georgia	the entire AU	the month the AU returns to the state, only if there are months remaining on the original MAO time period and all eligibility requirements are met
the only child in the AU reaches age 18	the entire AU and complete a CMD.	N/A