

2170 - FOUR MONTHS EXTENDED MEDICAID

POLICY STATEMENT	Four Months Extended Medicaid (4MEx) provides 4 months of Medicaid coverage for a LIM AU that becomes ineligible due to the receipt of child or spousal support.
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	<p>4MEx is available to an AU that becomes ineligible for LIM because of new or increased child or spousal support income OR new or increased child or spousal support income concurrent with changes, other than earned income, that cause LIM ineligibility.</p> <p>An AU with earned income that becomes ineligible for LIM because of concurrent increases of child or spousal support and earned income should receive TMA. In this instance, the months of TMA and 4MEx would run concurrently.</p> <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. 4MEx would begin the month following the expiration of timely notice.</p> <p>LIM ineligibility may be a result of an increase in child or spousal support and a concurrent change. If the concurrent change alone caused LIM ineligibility, the AU is ineligible for 4MEx.</p> <p>Note: “Spousal Support” is court-ordered payment from an estranged spouse or former spouse to the other spouse for support under the terms of a court order or settlement agreement following a divorce. Payments may be in one lump sum, or in a series of monthly payments. Alimony is also termed “spousal support” or “maintenance”.</p> <p>Increased child or spousal support is defined as any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the initial receipt of child or spousal support• an increase in the amount of child or spousal support received• the receipt of an additional child or spousal support payment. <p>If the AU receives a back payment of child or spousal 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>

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)**

Child or spousal support may be received directly from the absent parent (AP), through DCSS (for child support) or another source such as Clerk of the Court.

If LIM ineligibility results when adding a child with child support to a LIM AU, 4MEx can be approved for the entire AU.

Reporting

The AU must report the increase in child or spousal 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 or spousal support income, 4MEx eligibility begins the first month following the expiration of timely notice.

**Ongoing
Eligibility**

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

NOTE: If an A/R loses 4MEx because he/she moves out of state, but returns to Georgia within the same 4 month period, he/she may resume 4MEx for any remaining months.

A notice is sent at the beginning of the four month extended period specifying the months of eligibility under 4MEx. Follow the procedures for coding 4MEx cases on MISC as outlined in Appendix J-8 to ensure that the months of 4MEx are determined correctly by SUCCESS and the AU receives appropriate notice. Enter the following “note” (PF13 on CAFI) when confirming eligibility: “Please note: ineligibility for your LIM coverage was due to an increase in spousal support rather than child support income. All the other information in the above notice is correct.”

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

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)**

4MEx 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 or spousal support. Any individual who moves into the home during the 4MEx eligibility period is **ineligible** for 4MEx, however s/he may qualify for another Medicaid COA.

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

PROCEDURES

Follow the steps below to establish Medicaid eligibility for the AU under 4MEx.

Step 1 Determine the amount of child or spousal support, the date of first receipt and the date reported by the AU.

Step 2 Determine LIM ineligibility because of child or spousal support income or child or spousal support income in combination with other income or other concurrent change, but not the other income or concurrent change 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 4MEx for the AU effective the month following the expiration of timely notice by entering the new or increased income in SUCCESS and allowing the case to trickle to F09.

Note: Prior to confirming eligibility on ELIG and CAFI, go to MISC and enter the Extended Medicaid Start Date and enter a "Y" in the COA Cor field.

Step 5 Notify the A/R of the change, specifying the four months of Medicaid eligibility under 4MEx and the individuals covered. SUCCESS will issue the notice. For 4MEx due to spousal support, add the note (F13 on CAFI): "Please note: ineligibility for your LIM coverage was due to an increase in spousal support rather than child support income. All the other information in the above notice is correct."

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 4MEx for	AND reinstate 4MEx effective
the individual whose income qualified the AU for 4MEx 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 4MEx 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 4MEx 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