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Nevada Health Link CARES Act Income Reporting

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, congress approved an economic recovery package and the president signed the "[Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act](#)" ([the CARES Act](#)), on March 27th, 2020. The CARES Act includes a Recovery Rebate Tax Credit for all citizens meeting tax and income criteria as well as Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, which is additional federal Unemployment Income (UI) for qualifying individuals approved for state-based Unemployment Income.

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation: The additional \$600 federal compensation to recipients of UI, must be reported as income when an individual applies for financial assistance with Nevada Health Link (NVHL). It will not be included as countable income by the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) to make Medicaid eligibility determinations. This discrepancy in countable income could change with future legislation or federal guidance.

In short, the \$600 a week additional federal UI benefit must be counted for Exchange benefit determinations, but not for Medicaid determinations.

Recovery Rebate Tax Credit: As a tax-credit, the \$1,200* per individual and \$500 per child, one-time rebate (Deposit or Check) should not be reported as income for Exchange eligibility purposes. (*\$1,200 is the maximum amount per individual).

The one-time rebate payment, known as the Stimulus Check, is not counted as income by either agency.

Consumers should seek out the most appropriate benefit for their situation. Due to divergent calculation rules for increased UI benefits, it is possible that a consumer could be determined eligible for Exchange subsidies, while also determined eligible for Medicaid, by DWSS.

If a consumer would meet income qualifications for either benefit due to the countable income discrepancy, Medicaid would be the most appropriate benefit.

Nevada Medicaid/CHIP:

Phone: 1-877-543-7669

Web: www.dwss.nv.gov

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