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8/30/21

Change in Social Security Policy on Pandemic-Related Disaster Assistance

On August 17, 2021, the Social Security Administration (SSA) issued an emergency message to notify participants that they have shifted their position on COVID-19 disaster payments and individual resource limits. Previously, SSA outlined that Economic Impact Payments, also known as stimulus payments, would be included in the calculation of an individual's asset limit twelve months after their receipt. These payments were included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2021, and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). However, per [Emergency Message 21050](#), SSA has adjusted their policy to now exclude these payments from individual income and resource calculations.

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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH