

# FIA INFORMATION MEMO

Control Number: #22-31

Effective Date: September 1, 2022

**Issuance Date: September 1, 2022** 

TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT, FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE (TCA), TEMPORARY

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TDAP) BENEFIT

**DECREASE** 

PROGRAM AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TCA)

TEMPORARY DISABILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(TDAP)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

#### **SUMMARY**

This Information Memo (IM) replaces AT# 22-26 and IM# 22-27.

In March 2022, Supplemental #5 Budget was introduced. The supplement included funding to increase the monthly benefit for Transitional Cash Assistance (TCA) and Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP). The original proposal included an additional \$65; which was adjusted to \$45 per month per recipient in the final appropriation.

On July 1, 2022, TCA and TDAP households began to receive an additional \$65 per month. Effective September 1, 2022, FIA adjusted and made an administrative error correction to limit the increase to \$45 per recipient. This increase will be deposited on the TCA and TDAP customer's EBT card as separate transactions. For example, a TCA household size of 3 will receive \$727 as their regular benefit and then receive \$135 separately as the \$45 increase per recipient. Likewise, a TDAP household will receive \$328 as their regular benefit and then receive \$45 separately as the \$45 increase per recipient. A breakdown of the TCA benefit amounts per household size is provided in the FIP Schedule attached.

FIP SCHEDULE Effective September 1, 2022

Household Size	Allowable Payment	Used for Stepparent Deemed Income 50% of Monthly Poverty Level	Total Children With One Needy Caretaker
1	\$328	\$566	
2	\$575	\$763	1
3	\$727	\$960	2
4	\$870	\$1,156	3
5	\$1,010	\$1,353	4
6	\$1,110	\$1,550	5
7	\$1,247	\$1,746	6
8	\$1,372	\$1,943	7
9	\$1,480	\$2,140	8
10	\$1,599	\$2,336	9
11	\$1,744	\$2,533	10
12	\$1,823	\$2,730	11
13	\$1,935	\$2,926	12
14	\$2,048	\$3,123	13
15	\$2,165	\$3,320	14
16	\$2,303	\$3,517	15
17	\$2,440	\$3,714	16
18	\$2,576	\$3,911	17
19	\$2,711	\$4,108	18
20	\$2,846	\$4,305	19
21	\$2,983	\$4,498	20

Poverty level changes were effective January 12, 2022. Add \$136 for each person in household sizes larger than 21. Add \$197 per household member for 50% of poverty over household size of 21.

FIP SCHEDULE R Effective September 1, 2022

A	В	C	D
Family Size	Allowable Payment	Available Recoupment 10% of column - B	Available Recoupment 20% of column - B
1	\$328	\$33	\$66
2	\$575	\$58	\$115
3	\$727	\$73	\$145
4	\$870	\$87	\$174
5	\$1,010	\$101	\$202
6	\$1,110	\$111	\$222
7	\$1,247	\$125	\$249
8	\$1,372	\$137	\$274
9	\$1,480	\$148	\$296
10	\$1,599	\$160	\$320
11	\$1,744	\$174	\$349
12	\$1,823	\$182	\$365
13	\$1,935	\$194	\$387
14	\$2,048	\$205	\$410
15	\$2,165	\$217	\$433
16	\$2,303	\$230	\$461

The recoupment is the higher of
\$10 or 10% if the recipient has no
other income, and it is an Agency
or client caused overpayment
(non-fraud or IPV).

The recoupment is the higher of \$20 or 20% if the recipient has another source of income, and it is an Agency or Client caused overpayment (non-fraud or IPV).

### **SYSTEMS UPDATES**

- A mass systems modification for the benefit changes has been completed.
- The \$45 a month increase per recipient will be issued to the customer's EBT card as a separate amount from the regular benefit amount.
- The system will issue underpayments for all eligible TCA and TDAP recipients for the months of July 2022 and August 2022.
- All active TCA and TDAP recipients with a one person household will receive a notice of the benefit change. The language on the change notice will read as follows:
  - o TCA Your TCA benefits are decreasing from (the current benefit amount) to (
    the new amount) effective September 1, 2022. (The new amount) will now be
    your regular monthly benefit amount each month. In addition to your regular
    monthly benefit amount you will receive \$45 per TCA household member. The
    new amount will show up on your EBT card each month as a separate deposit.
    The first deposit will be your regular TCA benefit amount for your household size
    (new amount). The second deposit will be an extra \$45 for each TCA recipient.
  - o TDAP Your TDAP benefits are decreasing from (the current benefit amount) to (the new amount) effective September 1, 2022. (The new amount) will now be your regular monthly benefit amount each month. In addition to your regular monthly benefit amount you will receive \$45 per TDAP household member. The new amount will show up on your EBT card each month as a separate deposit. The first deposit will be your regular TDAP benefit amount for your household size (new amount). The second deposit will be an extra \$45 for each TDAP recipient.

# TALKING POINTS FOR LDSS TO USE TO ADDRESS CUSTOMERS WHO MAY HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CHANGES

- Effective September 1, 2022 we made a correction to an administrative error that occurred issuing TCA and TDAP benefits during the months of July and August 2022.
- The correction reflects the final updates for an additional \$45 per month per recipient.
- As an example, a TCA household size of 3 will receive and additional \$135 due to the \$45 per recipient change.

- Benefits for TDAP and TCA households of one customer will be adjusted to limit the increase to \$45.
- Underpayments will be issued to TCA customers with a household size of 2 or more for July and August 2022.
- TCA and TDAP customers will receive two deposits each month on their EBT card. The first deposit will be their regular TCA or TDAP benefit amount and the second will be the extra amount. This is how the benefits will be split in the system.
- These changes will be effective September 1, 2022.

# **ACTIONS REQUIRED BY CASE MANAGER**

• None - The E&E system has been modified.

# **INQUIRIES**

Please direct policy questions to the Office of Statewide Policy Compliance and Customer Service Performance by completing the <u>FIA Policy Information Request Form</u> found on Knowledge Base as shown in the screenshot below or via email at <u>fia.policy@maryland.gov</u> for Montgomery County only.

For systems questions, please email <u>fia.bsdm@maryland.gov</u>.

C: DHS Executive Staff
Constituent Services
DHS Help Desk
FIA Management Staff
Office of Administrative Hearings