Countable and Exempt Income

The Basics

Total countable gross income is considered when determining eligibility
Some income is exempt
At initial application, gross income after applicable disregards must be below the program’s income limit (grant standard)

Countable Earned Income

Includes, but is not limited to:

Wages, Salaries & Tips
Earned income from employment for services performed as an employee
In-kind earned income are non-monetary wages received by the customer for services performed as an employee in exchange for shelter or other bartered goods.
Examples include: babysitting, building maintenance, or lawn care services

Self-Employment
Money from sales of self-employment capital goods, services, and property
Money from renting property is considered earned if the customer actively manages the property 20 hours a week or more
Business expenses are deducted from gross earnings
Do not allow deductions for personal expenses, payments on principal of loans, or depreciation of equipment or property

Donated Work Hours
Countable if regular and scheduled more than 5 hours per week, and would require someone to be hired if not completed by the customer
The value of the hours is the going rate in the community for the same type of work, or the current minimum wage, whichever is greater

Volunteerism
Volunteer work for the betterment of the community
Exempt if less than 30 hours per week
Countable and Exempt Income

Countable Unearned Income

Includes, but is not limited to:

**SSA Benefits**
- Supplemental Security Income- SSI
- Social Security Disability Insurance- SSDI
- SSA Retirement
- SSA Survivor’s Benefits to Widow(er)s

**Rental Income**
If no household member is actively managing the property at least an average of 20 hours per week

**Veteran’s Compensation and Military Retirement Pensions**
Also includes educational assistance payments

**Inheritance**
Normally would be a lump sum, countable in the month or months of receipt

**Proceeds from a Life Insurance Policy**
Customer is the beneficiary
Any amount remaining beyond the cost of the decedent’s illness or burial is countable for medical care

**Oil or Mineral Royalties or Lease Bonuses**
Verify with tax documents such as the 1099 from the prior year and average income over a 12 month period unless the amount is not representative of current earnings

**Interest and Dividends**
Average over a 12 month period if the income is reasonably certain but the monthly amount is expected to fluctuate

**Gifts and Prizes**
May be a lump sum or a monthly payment, countable in the months of receipt

**Health Insurance or Personal Injury Lawsuit Proceeds**
Any amount which exceeds the amount to be expended or is required to be expended for medical care

**Trusts**

**Union Striker Benefits**

**Annuity Payments**

**Worker’s Compensation Payments**

**Unemployment Compensation**

**Pension and Retirement Funds**

**Railroad Retirement Payments**
Countable and Exempt Income

Exempt Income

Includes, but is not limited to:

**Income Tax Refunds**
Exempt in the month received
Countable as a resource 12 months after receipt

**Educational Loans, Grants, and Work Study Income**

**Emergency or General Assistance**
Received on a one time basis, in-kind or in cash, from a county department or other agency

**VA Aid and Attendance**
If used for medical supplies, care or services not covered by other sources
Amounts remaining are countable income in the month received

**Reverse Mortgage Loan Payments**
Exempt in the month received, amounts remaining the following month are a countable resource

**Compensation through the Colorado Crime Victim Compensation Act**

**Income set aside for a PASS Plan approved by Social Security**
PASS is a program for SSI recipients to help them achieve a plan of self-support through self-employment or education
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME TYPE</th>
<th>RULE CITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Crime Victims Compensation</td>
<td>3.520.786.J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated Work Hours and Volunteerism</td>
<td>3.520.784.C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Loans and Grants</td>
<td>3.520.786.G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exempt Income - In General</td>
<td>3.520.786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Income</td>
<td>3.520.783.C.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Care Allowance payments</td>
<td>3.520.786.E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Tax Refunds</td>
<td>3.520.786.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Earned Income</td>
<td>3.520.782.B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Insurance Policy Proceeds</td>
<td>3.520.785.B.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Proceeds</td>
<td>3.520.77.L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil and Mineral Royalties</td>
<td>3.520.785.B.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employment</td>
<td>3.520.783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI, SSDI, and SSA Lump Sums</td>
<td>3.520.785.B.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Party Payments - Medical/Social Services</td>
<td>3.520.786.B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran’s Aid and Attendance</td>
<td>3.520.786.F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Study Grants</td>
<td>3.520.786.H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>