Project #13854
CBMS FA SSN for Newborn Logic

This project provides an update to the CBMS logic regarding the Social Security Number (SSN) information provided for newborns. The update will now ensure that a child without a SSN is no longer eligible for Food Assistance after the appropriate period of time.

For Food Assistance, when a newborn is added to the household without an SSN (no application to SSA) the child is eligible to receive benefits until they are 6 months of age or until the next RRR, whichever is later. This process allows the household time to provide the Social Security Number or the proof of application with the Social Security Administration.

Good Cause for SSN can be used if the household provides documentation or collateral information that they have applied for the number, or made every effort to supply the Social Security Administration with the necessary information to obtain a SSN. If a household refuses to provide a SSN due to a religious objection, Good Cause can be applied in CBMS to allow the individual(s) to pass without the SSN.

Things to Remember:

Some households may have a 24 month certification period.

A newborn is an infant from 0 to 6 months of age.
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When showing proof of application, verification that the application was filed with SSA (not just filled out) is necessary. The most common proof of application is called an SS5 but there are other types of verification such as printout from SSA showing application for SSN.

Client Statement is no longer an acceptable source in CBMS for “Applied for SSN” for Food Assistance. All other options for “Applied for SSN” are acceptable. When Client Statement is entered as verification for “Applied for SSN” any individual, EDBC will trigger the current VCL text (English/Spanish) and the verification due date will be set as 10+1 or 10+5 for (ACP Identified cases).

When a newborn is added without a SSN, they will receive benefits up to 6 months of age or until the next RRR (whichever is later); at which time a speed letter will be sent to the household.

The effective date of the speed letter is the end of the month the infant turns 6 months old or the end of the RRR certification period. The newborn will not lose eligibility from the birth month.

Example 1

A family with an ongoing Food Assistance case is in the 5th month of their 6 month certification. The client adds a newborn (0 months old) to the case without a Social Security Number.

Results:
The infant will be eligible for benefits past the RRR period through to the time that the infant reaches 6 months of age.
If no Social Security Number is provided the new speed letter (FS0805) termination NOA will be sent to the household with an effective date of the end of the month the child is 6 months old.

Example 2

A family with an ongoing Food Assistance case is in the 2nd month of their 6 month certification period. The client adds a newborn (4 months old) to the case without a Social Security Number.

Results:
The infant will be eligible for benefits through the end of the certification period, past the age of 6 months.
If no Social Security Number is provided the FS0805 termination NOA will be sent for the child, effective at the end of the certification period.