



SMART SOLUTION PROGRAM BULLETIN #30

June 17, 2020

TO: SMART SOLUTION PARTICIPATING LENDERS

FROM: Betty Temple-Putnam, Sr. Vice President of Single-Family Programs

RE: Smart Solution Program (SS)– Public Assistance (Stimulus) & Unemployment

This bulletin serves as a reminder to our participating lenders that under our guideline's MHC is required to look at several sources of income and some income that is not taxable into the household income per our guidelines such as "Public Assistance" and that includes the Stimulus funds and we've always required Unemployment income to be counted. MHC has received several comments from Lenders regarding our conditioning loans for documentation of Stimulus funds and Unemployment. MHC's Counsels have confirmed that any assistance received from the federal or state government, excluding Medicaid or food stamps, must be counted into the household income. The SS Income Calculation Worksheet has been revised on our Registration system to reflect "Stimulus funds" as Public Assistance.

The total amount of stimulus funds received would be divided by twelve to get a monthly figure Ex. $\$2,400 + \500 (for 1 child) = $\$2,900 * 12 = \241.67 . The $\$241.67$ would be placed on the SS Income Calc Worksheet, just like you would for SSI, Unemployment, Child Support, etc.

To document the amount received, provide evidence of the stimulus funds such as a bank statement showing the deposit. If the household occupant cashed a check instead of depositing the check, a MHC LOE can be executed stating that fact and the amount they received.

If they received the funds via a EIP (Economic Impact Payment) VISA debit card they can actually go online to EIP.com or IRS.gov/EIP to set up a user account and print their statement reflecting the amount of funds they received. All examples should be uploaded to MHC using the "Exception Document" index sheet.

MHC is aware that some individuals have not yet received their stimulus funds and if that's the case each applicable individual must write & execute a statement to that effect using the MHC LOE.

For Unemployment, we would require copies of the benefits form that is provided by the MS Dept. of Employment Security (this information can be printed from their website - <https://mdes.ms.gov>).

NOTE: This applies to ALL MHC programs regarding the counting of non-taxable income such as Public Assistance, Unemployment, etc.