**Food Supplement Program Potpourri**

1. When adding a new member to a Food Supplement household, you prorate benefits from the date of the reported change.

   **False**
   Supplemental benefits are not prorated (unless the member is added as a result of curing a sanction beyond the minimum time period). Calculate the difference between the correct benefit for the circumstances of that month and what the client received. Issue benefits to correct the shortage.
   Ref: FS 666-6, pg 7

2. Mrs. Morris is a one-member household. She resides with her daughter in Skowhegan as a separate household. Mrs. Morris also owns a home in Norridgewock where she has a friend residing. Because her friend pays no rent and pays all bills associated with living there directly, the house is not counted as an asset.

   **False**
   The property must annually produce income consistent with its fair market value to be exempt. This property generates no rental income. (Since the property is not unoccupied, Mrs. Morris has no intent to return, and she has no expressed reason for residing with her daughter, item 1 does not apply.) It must therefore be counted as an asset.
   Ref: FS 333-2, pg 3 Item # 13

3. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have three children and currently receive only Food Supplement benefits. They are a 6-month reporting household and their last report was 2 months ago. They have just won a $1 million lottery prize, taken as a one-time lump sum distribution, and called to report their winnings. What do you do?

   a. Congratulate them on their good fortune and tell them they are no longer eligible.
   b. Enter the information into ACES and take no action until their next report.
   c. Request verification of their winnings and how it is being spent.

   **b. Enter the information into ACES and take no action until their next report.**
   Enter information on ACES in a case note. Take no action. Categorical 6-month reporters do not need to report any changes between certification and the six-month report; action will be taken on voluntarily reported changes resulting in reduced benefits. (Since this is lump sum income, as an asset, it is not an issue, since there is no asset test for this family.) *If this household is involved with other programs such as MaineCare and TANF, you must explore the impact this will have on those benefits.
   Ref: FS 666-6, pg 3
4. Jane Wilson attends UMA. Her financial aid package includes federally funded work-study. She is not currently performing any work-study activity because there are no work study assignments left for the semester. She is eligible for Food Supplement benefits.

**False**

We have to be able to anticipate that she will be performing work study or meeting the post secondary work requirement in some other way throughout the student’s enrollment – including vacations – to remain eligible.

Ref: FS 444-7, pg 1

5. Brad Smith attends UMA. His financial aid package includes federally funded work-study. He is waiting for confirmation of his assignment, which he expects will be a placement in the Katz Library as it was last semester. Brad is eligible for Food Supplement benefits.

**True**

We have to be able to anticipate that he will be performing work study or meeting the post secondary work requirement in some other way throughout the student’s enrollment – including vacations – to remain eligible.

Ref: FS 444-7, pg 1

6. Ann Adams attends UMF. Her financial aid package includes federally funded work-study. She holds a work study position during the fall and spring, but cannot maintain her 4.0 GPA if she works in the summer’s condensed sessions, so she takes the summer off (It is June). Ann is eligible for Food Supplement benefits.

**False**

We have to be able to anticipate that she will be performing work study or meeting the post secondary work requirement in some other way throughout the student’s enrollment – including vacations – to remain eligible.

Ref: FS 444-7, pg 1

7. Adam Jones attends KVCC. His financial aid package includes federally funded work-study. He is currently employed 20 hours weekly at Wal-Mart while he waits for a position to open in the Bookstore. Adam is eligible for Food Supplement benefits.

**True**

We have to be able to anticipate that he will be performing work study or meeting the post secondary work requirement in some other way throughout the student’s enrollment – including vacations – to remain eligible.

Ref: FS 444-7, pg 1
8. Sally Turner attends Unity College. Her financial aid package includes federally funded work-study. She will not seek a work-study position since she attends full time and finds it difficult as a single mom with a 10-year-old son. Sally is eligible for Food Supplement benefits.

**True**

We have to be able to anticipate that she will be performing work study or meeting the post secondary work requirement or exemption in some other way throughout the student's enrollment – including vacations – to remain eligible.

Ref: FS 444-7, pg 1

9. When a household requests a hearing within 12 days of an adverse action, the household can request a continuation of benefits at the higher level of issuance. John received notice of a decrease on April 10. He requested a hearing on April 22. The hearing was held on May 22. His case was due for recertification by June 30. The hearing decision was received on July 15. Based on these dates, how many months of preserved benefits did John receive?

a. 1 month (May)
b. 2 months (May and June)
c. 3 months (May, June, and July)

**b. 2 months (May and June),**

Since the certification period ended on June 30. The benefits may continue until the hearing decision or the certification period ends-whichever comes first.

FS 777-1, pg 3

10. John is an ABAWD. His first 3 months of eligibility for Food Supplement benefits ended on December 29. He reapplies in early April and reports that he started volunteering at the local FEMA office 10 hours a week in late March. Which of the following should you do?

a. Grant John an additional 3 months of regained eligibility.
b. Grant eligibility because he is currently meeting the work/volunteer requirement.
c. Deny John since he cannot be eligible until July 1, 2009 in Maine.

**b. Grant eligibility because he is currently meeting the work requirement/volunteer requirement.**

Grant eligibility when you verify that he has volunteered the minimum 24 hours for March, meeting the work requirement. The additional 3-month period of eligibility would not be used until he lost his volunteer position. This can only be granted once in a 36-month period, so you must determine that he has not received it in the past.

Ref: FS 111-7, pg 6
11. If a refrigerator breaks down and food spoils, it can be replaced.

**False**
Food replacement must be due to a household misfortune beyond the control of the individual, such as an extended power outage due to weather conditions, not nonpayment disconnects. If the landlord is responsible for the malfunctioning appliance or utility disconnect, the client needs to seek reparation from the landlord, not the Food Supplement program.
Ref: FS 777-4, pg 2

12. How long must a household’s power be out to receive food replacement under the household misfortune guidelines?

a. 24 hours  
b. 48 hours  
c. 72 hours  

**a. 24 hours**
The minimum outage to establish spoilage per the MSHA is 24 hours for a refrigerator, and 48 hours for a freezer, so we can accept a claim for anything over 24 hrs.
Ref: FS 777-4, pg 2

13. Mr. Smith has applied for Food Supplement for himself, his wife, and their 2 children. General Assistance has sanctioned Mr. Smith for 120 days. Which of the following is correct?

a. The entire household is disqualified from participating in the Food Supplement Program because the Head of household is sanctioned from GA.  
b. Only Mr. Smith is disqualified from the Food Supplement Program.

**b. Only Mr. Smith is disqualified from the Food Supplement Program.**
Mr. Smith’s wife and children may still receive Food Supplement benefits. Only the sanctioned individual is ineligible.
FS 444-10, pg 1

14. In processing an Agency Error overpayment, how far back do you go from the time of discovery?

a. 6 months  
b. 1 year  
c. 3 years  
d. 6 years  

**b. 1 year**
If the agency error overpayment was discovered prior to the current month, or after adverse, overpayment determination must continue to be calculated until the benefit amount can be corrected.
Ref: FS 777-3, pg 2
15. In processing an Unintentional Program Violation overpayment, how far back do you go from the time of discovery?

a. 6 months  
b. 1 year  
c. 3 years  
d. 6 years  

**d. 6 years**  
If the unintentional program violation overpayment was discovered prior to the current month, or after adverse, overpayment determination must continue to be calculated until the benefit amount can be corrected.  
Ref: FS 777-3, pg2

16. In processing an Intentional Program Violation overpayment, how far back do you go from the time of discovery?

a. 6 months  
b. 1 year  
c. 3 years  
d. 6 years  

**d. 6 years**  
If the intentional program violation overpayment was discovered prior to the current month, or after adverse, overpayment determination must continue to be calculated until the benefit amount can be corrected.  
Ref: FS 777-3, pg2