

**DEPARTMENT
POLICY****LIF**

Group composition policy for Low-Income Families (LIF) is in PEM 110. Do not use the policy in this item to determine group composition for LIF.

Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA

Use fiscal groups and, for SSI-related MA, Group 2 Persons Under Age 21 and Group 2 Caretaker Relative, asset groups to determine the financial eligibility of a person who requests MA and meets all the nonfinancial eligibility factors for an MA category.

Individual family members may be eligible under different MA categories. You must explore all categories for each person who requests MA. See [“CHOICE OF CATEGORY”](#) in PEM 105.

**REFUSING
INFORMATION****Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA**

A person about whom information necessary to determine eligibility is refused and that person's spouse and children, if living with the person, are not eligible for MA. Therefore, no fiscal or asset group is set up for them.

Failure to cooperate with SSN, support or third party resource liability requirements (PEM 223, 255, 256 and 257) may result in MA ineligibility for a person, but is not refusing information necessary to determine eligibility.

DEFINITIONS**Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA**

“**Child**” means an unmarried person under age 18.

“**Adult**” means a person who is married or age 18 or older.

**RULES FOR
GROUPS****Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA**

Determine the fiscal and asset groups separately for each person requesting MA. When referring to the group listings, remember:

- Only persons living with one another can be in the same group. See [“LIVING WITH.”](#)
- Certain persons cannot be fiscal or asset group members in SSI-related MA. See [“EXCLUDED PERSONS.”](#)
- There is **no** asset test for Group 2 Pregnant Women and the Healthy Kids categories.

- **For all Group 2 FIP-related MA and Healthy Kids categories**, when a child lives with both parents who do not live with each other (e.g., child lives with his mother two weeks each month and his father the other two weeks), only one parent, the primary caretaker, is in the fiscal group. You must determine a **primary caretaker**. The primary caretaker is the parent who is primarily responsible for the child's day-to-day care and supervision in the home where the child sleeps more than half the days in a month, when averaged over a twelve month period. The twelve month period begins at the time the determination is being made. Vacations and visitation with the absent parent do not interrupt primary caretaker status. See rules in [PEM 255](#) concerning support from the other parent. See Verification Sources in this item.
 - Joint physical custody occurs when parents alternate taking responsibility for the child's day-to-day care and supervision. It may be included in a court order or may be an informal arrangement between parents. A child is considered to be living with only one parent in a joint custody arrangement. This parent is the primary caretaker.
- **For all Group 2 FIP-related MA and Healthy Kids categories**, count a pregnant woman as at least two members. If twins **are verified**, count the woman as three, etc.
- **For PEM 125 and 126 categories only**, continue to count the woman as two (or three, etc.) for two calendar months following her pregnancy termination for each unborn not resulting in a live birth.

LIVING WITH

Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA

Living with others means sharing a home where family members usually sleep, **except** for temporary absences. A temporarily absent person is considered in the home.

Temporary Absence

Group 2 FIP-Related MA, Healthy Kids and SSI-Related MA

A person's absence is temporary if for the month being tested:

- his location is known; **and**
- there is a definite plan for him to return home; **and**
- he lived with the group before the absence (**Note:** newborns and unborns are considered to have lived with their mothers); **and**
- the absence did not last, or is not expected to last, the entire month being tested unless the absence is for education, training, or active duty in the uniformed services of the U.S.

Exception: An absence is never temporary when:

- the month being tested is an L/H month ([see PRG](#)) for the absent person; or
- the absent person is in one of the following on the last day of a past month or on the processing date for current and future months:
 - Long-term care (LTC) facility
 - Adult foster care facility
 - Home for the aged
 - Licensed child foster care home
 - Child caring institution

Therefore, the above persons (including spouses residing in the same facility) are never considered to be living with others. A child who has resided in a hospital for 30 or more days is not considered to be living with others and is a fiscal group of one. Certify for 12 months before re-determining eligibility for the child.

RULES FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN

A dependent child can be temporarily absent from only one home. When a child spends time with two parents who do not live together, you must determine a primary caretaker. Scheduled vacations and visitation do not interrupt primary caretaker status.

Example 1: Amanda normally lives with Mom. Dad has scheduled visitation every other weekend, two weeks at Christmas, two weeks at Easter and two weeks in the summer. Mom is the primary caretaker.

Example 2: Emily's mother works during the week. She drops Emily off at her grandmother's house on Sunday evening and picks her up on Friday evening. Emily's grandmother is primarily responsible for her care and supervision in the home where she sleeps more than half the days in a month when averaged over the next twelve months. Emily's grandmother is the Primary Caretaker.

Example 3: Emily's mother works during Emily's normal sleep hours. Emily is only at Grandma's to sleep while mom works, (not there all week) mom is the Primary Caretaker. Grandma is providing child care.

EXCLUDED PERSONS FOR SSI- RELATED

SSI-Related MA

The following cannot be fiscal or asset group members:

- FIP recipients

- SSI recipients
- Title IV-E recipients
- Department wards
- A person about whom information necessary to determine eligibility is refused

FIP-RELATED FISCAL GROUPS

Group 2 FIP-Related MA and Healthy Kids

Determine the fiscal group for each person who is requesting MA. The fiscal group must be determined separately for each person.

In determining a person's eligibility, the only income that may be considered is the person's own income and the income of the following persons who live with the customer:

- the customer's spouse, and
- the customer's parent(s) if the customer is a child.

This means, for example, that:

- A child's income cannot be used to determine a parent's eligibility.
- A stepparent's income cannot be used to determine a stepchild's eligibility.
- A grandparent's income cannot be used to determine a grandchild's eligibility.

But it also means that:

- A parent's income is considered in determining his/her child's eligibility.

Exception: Disregard parental income for all pregnant women applying for or receiving MA under the Healthy Kids for Pregnant Women category.

- Each spouse's income is considered in determining the other spouse's eligibility.

Therefore, in addition to establishing a fiscal group for each person requesting MA, you must use policies in PEM 536 to prorate a person's income among the person's dependents and him/herself.

FIP-Related Child

Group 2 FIP-Related MA and Healthy Kids

A child's fiscal group is:

- the child, and
- the child's parents.

See [PEM 400](#). See PEM 536 to determine budgetable income of the fiscal group. There is **no** assets test for Group 2 Pregnant Women and the Healthy Kids categories.

FIP-Related Adult Group 2 FIP-Related MA and Healthy Kids

An **adult's fiscal group** is:

- the adult, **and**
- the adult's spouse.

See [PEM 400](#). See PEM 536 to determine budgetable income of the fiscal group. There is no asset test for Group 2 Pregnant Women and the Healthy Kids categories.

SSI-RELATED FISCAL GROUPS

SSI-Related MA

Determine the fiscal group for each person who is requesting MA. The fiscal group must be determined separately for each person.

SSI-Related Child SSI-Related MA

A **child** is a fiscal and asset group of one.

For a child living with his parent(s), [PEM 400](#) and [540](#) explain whether the parent(s) must deem assets or income to the child. Also, see PEM [540](#) to determine budgetable income for the fiscal group.

SSI-Related Adult SSI-Related MA

An **adult's** fiscal and asset groups are:

- The adult for an L/H patient, a waiver patient ([see PEM 106](#)) and a Freedom to Work customer even if he lives with his spouse.

Exception: When [PEM 402](#) instructs you to determine a couple's countable assets for an “**INITIAL ASSET ASSESSMENT**” or “**Initial Eligibility**,” the L/H or waiver patient and his community spouse are considered an asset group.

- The adult and his spouse for all other customers.

See [PEM 400](#) to determine the asset group's countable assets and [PEM 541](#) to determine budgetable income for each person in the fiscal group.

**CASE RECORDS
AND CIMS CASES****Group 2 FIP-Related MA and Healthy Kids**

This item requires that groups be determined separately for each person. However, this does not mean that separate case records (see PAM 300) and CIMS cases are required for each family member. Family members eligible under the Healthy Kids categories may be included together as outlined in [“CIMS Input”](#) in PEM 125, 129 and 131.

Family members eligible under the caretaker relative and under age 21 categories may be included together as outlined in [“CIMS Input”](#) in PEM 132 and 135.

**VERIFICATION
REQUIREMENTS****Group 2 FIP-Related MA and Healthy Kids**

Verify the number of unborns when:

- a pregnant woman claims to be expecting more than one child,
and
- multiple unborns are necessary to establish income eligibility.

Verify the Primary Caretaker when questioned or disputed.

**Verification
Sources****Pregnancy and Number of Unborns:**

An DHS-49, Medical Examination Report, DHS-54A, Medical Needs, or other written statement from any of the following:

- M.D.
- D.O.
- physician's assistant (PA)
- ob-gyn nurse practitioner (NP)
- ob-gyn clinical nurse specialist (NS)
- certified nurse midwife
- registered nurse (RN)

If needed, a medical exam may be authorized to verify the number of unborns. [See PAM 815.](#)

Primary Caretaker:

- Court order that addresses custody or visitation.
- School records indicating who enrolled the child and who is called in an emergency situation.
- Medical records stating where the child lives, who is responsible for the child's medical care.

- Day care records showing where the child lives and who makes and pays for the day care arrangements.

LEGAL BASE

MA

Social Security Act, Sections 1902(a)(10),(17)
MCL 400.106