



**Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) 516 West Loockerman  
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October 29, 2025

Planning and Policy Unit  
Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance  
1901 North DuPont Highway/P O Box 906  
New Castle, DE 19720-0906

**RE: 29 DE Reg. 277 DHSS/DSS Proposed Income Exclusions for Food Benefits  
Amendment Regulations (October 1, 2025)]**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Delaware Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DHSS/DMMA) proposal to add an exception to income exclusions for the food benefit program. Council supports the goal of this amendment but would like to share the following observations and recommendations.

**9059 Income Exclusions for Food Benefits**

This section lists the types of income excluded ~~for the Food Supplement Program~~ food benefits.

....

**W. Exclude the following income when determining eligibility for food benefits.**

Income excluded under TANF to only include:

1. Time-limited income for living expenses received based on need from non-profit organizations or state or local government agencies, such as rental assistance payments from the New Castle County Family HOPE Project.

The first line of the section needs a “for” between “excluded” and “food benefits” so it reads “excluded for benefits” instead of “excluded food benefits.” Also, the phrasing of “Income excluded under TANF to only include...” is very unclear – is it excluded or only included? DHSS/DSS may instead choose to use language similar to the language used in the financial responsibility regulation: “DSS disregards the types of income listed in this policy when determining financial eligibility” for food benefits.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support and observation. We look forward to receiving information on our request for a change in the noted section. Please feel free to contact

Pam Weir or me should you have any questions on our comments or requests for clarity on our request.

Sincerely,

*William H. Doolittle*

William H. Doolittle  
Chairperson

WHD: kpc