F.Y.I.

from the Policy Unit
FYI-301
Date: August 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Lost Wages Assistance Program Benefits

Please contact the Policy Unit if you have any questions regarding these or any other changes at
DCSS POLICYQUESTIONS@azdes.gov or call 602-771-8127

On August 8, 2020, President Trump signed an executive order authorizing the use of Stafford Act funds for a new Loss of Wages Assistance Program (LWAP). As it currently stands, this assistance provides an extra $300 benefit to both UI and PUA claimants using FEMA funding. The DCSS and DERS are working together to ensure that programming occurs as quickly as possible so that these benefits, which are not subject to collections for child support, are not collected.

If NCPs contact the agency regarding these funds, please communicate the below process to them.

Due to guidance recently received from FEMA, the DCSS will refund payments deducted from LWAP for child support. Please note that this only applies to the extra $300 payment attached to your regular benefit. If these payments have been deducted from your LWAP benefit, the following will occur:

- The DCSS will review the payment to confirm the source of the payment as LWAP.
- This payment will not be applied to your Child Support balance or current child support monthly payment.
- The amounts will be refunded within 3 to 5 business days from your payment posting.
- Refunds will occur in the form of a check.
- This will not impact the normal UI/PUA benefit collections.

If CPs contact the agency regarding payments they thought they would receive from LWAP:

A payment was posted to your case in error, and your case has been corrected to reflect the correct balance.

For further questions regarding LWAP questions, clients should be directed to the DERS website at: https://des.az.gov/services/coronavirus.

DCSS colleagues are urged to view this information directly on The PORT and not create a separate personal file.
Please do not reply directly to this message as we will not be able to respond. This email address is only used for outgoing mail