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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES**  
 COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION  
 Economic Services Administration  
 Post Office Box 45440 Olympia WA 98504-5440

August 6, 2019

**TO:** CSD Regional Administrators  
 CSO Administrators  
 WorkFirst Regional Coordinators

**FROM:** Babs Roberts, Director  
 Community Services Division

pp Bea-Alise Rector, Director  
 Home and Community Services, ALTA

Debbie Roberts, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
 Developmental Disabilities Administration

**SUBJECT: TREATMENT OF INCOME FROM U.S. CENSUS BUREAU**

Income from temporary employment with the U.S. Census Bureau in 2019 and 2020 is exempt when determining eligibility and benefit levels for all cash and food assistance programs.

**Why is this happening?** A significant number of client households will benefit by gaining valuable work experience with the Census Bureau during the 2020 Census. Through a demonstration waiver with USDA and policy decisions within the cash assistance programs, we are able to exempt Census income to avoid reducing benefits for these households.

**How do staff apply the policy?** Census 2020 income is exempt earned income. It is vital that staff code this income in ACES 3G as "Census 2020" earned income as we are required to track and report data for the exemption. If staff need assistance in proper coding of the income, they should contact the ACES Helpdesk.

**Does this change apply to medical programs?** Yes, earnings from temporary census work are excluded earned income. See <https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/program-administration/treatment-income-chart> for more information.

**Where can I find more information?**

Low-income adults are encouraged to apply for these Census positions. Information and applications can be found at: [2020 Census Jobs](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Budde at (360) 725-4769.

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