

Mike McCormick
Authorized Signature

Number: APD-PT-15-038
Issue date: 11/20/2015

Topic: Cash Payments

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New policy
 Policy change
 Policy clarification
 Executive letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual update
 Other: _____

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services(ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Policy/rule title:	Refugee Program Benefits and Services to Refugees		
Policy/rule number(s):	461-120-0210	Release no:	
Effective date:	November 13, 2015	Expiration:	
References:	Refugee Program Manual		
Web address:	https://apps.state.or.us/cf1/EligManual/EMnlFrame.htm?Page+ID=08-toc		

Discussion/interpretation: Oregon continues to receive Refugees from around the world. Many of these Refugees are age 65 and older, and many come to Oregon with disabilities. APD and AAA offices do serve Refugees who are age 65 and over, as well as Refugees of any age with disabilities. Benefits and services that Refugees may receive from APD and AAA offices include:

- REF (Refugee cash assistance),
- OSIPM,
- Long-Term Care services,
- Medicare Savings Programs, and

- SNAP benefits.

Refugees are not subject to the prohibition on means-tested federal benefits, including medical benefits, for five years from the date of entry into the United States, as are many other immigrants.

Social Security Number and Social Security card requirements do apply to Refugees applying for OSIPM and Medicare Savings Programs. OAR 461-120-0210 specifies that before individuals may receive OSIPM or Medicare Savings Program benefits, an applicant must show that they have a Social Security Number or that they have applied for one. However, we want to take this opportunity to remind all APD and AAA staff that Refugees cannot be refused an opportunity to apply for benefits and services prior to applying for a Social Security Number or card. Applicants for benefits and services who are Refugees can apply at any time, and are not required to obtain a Social Security Number or card prior to applying.

REF cash assistance may be received by qualifying Refugees for a maximum of eight months. REF benefits will stop when SSI cash benefits begin, or at the end of eight months. A Social Security Number or card is not required for REF cash assistance. Once again, Refugees may access REF benefits at APD and AAA offices, and are not required to be redirected to Self-Sufficiency Program (SSP) offices for REF benefits and services.

For more information on determining eligibility for the REF program, please see the Self-Sufficiency Program's Refugee Program Manual, found here:

<https://apps.state.or.us/cf1/EligManual/EMnIFrame.htm?Page+ID=08-toc>

For questions regarding where refugees are served, please see Worker Guide B-4. You can find Worker Guide B-4 here:

<http://www.dhs.state.or.us/spd/tools/additional/workergd/b.4.htm>

If you have other questions concerning Refugees, please contact Anthony Scott, Refugee Program Analyst, with DHS Self-Sufficiency Programs at the numbers listed below.

Implementation/transition instructions: None

Training/communication plan: Managers to ensure that staff read and understand the policy.

Local/branch action required: Managers to ensure that staff read and understand the policy.

Central office action required: None

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by: APD Program Analysts

Filing instructions: None

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

Contact(s):	Anthony Scott, Refugee Program Analyst, SSP		
Phone:	(503) 947-5261	Fax:	
Email:	Anthony.Scott@dhsosha.state.or.us		