INCOME

BUDGETING

- **Description:** Budgeting is the process that is used to determine the value of an A/R's income. The budgeting of income to determine eligibility for Medicaid varies according to category.
- **Policy:** The budgeting process involves several steps, some of which are common to all budgeting methodologies and some of which include elements that are specific to a particular category.

References: SSL Sect. 366

Dept. Reg. 360-4

ADM OMM/ADM 97-2

Interpretation: To determine eligibility for Medicaid, five budgeting methodologies are used:

- (1) Low Income Families (LIF) budgeting methodology is used for the following:
 - Parents living with their dependent children under age 21;
 - Persons under age 21;
 - Pregnant women; and
 - FNP parents.
- (2) When ineligible under LIF criteria, the ADC-related budgeting methodology is used for the following:
 - Parents living with their dependent children under age 21;
 - Persons under age 21;
 - Pregnant women; and
 - FNP parents.

NOTE: This budgeting methodology is used for pregnant women and children under age 19 in determining their eligibility under the poverty levels.

(3) The SSI-related budgeting methodology is used for the following: aged (65 or over), certified blind, or certified disabled A/ Rs and for all of the Medicaid A/Rs who are applying for and determined eligible for payment or part payment of the Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductibles. (See INCOME <u>MEDICAID EXPANDED INCOME LEVELS</u>)

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- (4) The Singles/Childless Couples (S/CC) budgeting methodology is used for A/Rs age 21 and over, but under age 65, who are not living with dependent children under age 21, not pregnant and who are not certified blind or certified disabled.
- (5) The chronic care budgeting methodology is used for all individuals in permanent absence status (See **GLOSSARY**).

NOTE: FNP parents can NOT spenddown to obtain full Medicaid coverage.

Frequently, more than one budgeting methodology is used to determine eligibility. For example, a certified disabled person may be given the choice between LIF, ADC-related budgeting and SSI-related budgeting. The remaining family members are only eligible for either LIF or ADC-related budgeting, as appropriate.

(See **INCOME** <u>MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM</u> for the treatment of Medicare beneficiaries (QMBs, SLMBs, etc.))

Disposition: After applying the appropriate methodology to arrive at the net available income, the net available income is compared to the appropriate income/resource level. All other eligibility requirements must be met.