

Vermont
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Social Welfare

PROCEDURES

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Bulletin No. 93-61

P-2115

P-2115 Beneficiary and Earnings Data Exchange (Bendex)

See ACCESS Manual, INFCOVR.5-8 and INFCANT 4-5.

ACCESS produces a monthly update tape for Social Security (around the 13th) to add new people, delete people whose cases has closed, and change identifying data. Social Security then compares our data to its Master Beneficiary Record (MBR) file. If the data matches, they return Title II (SSA), Medicare, and other data to us on a tape twice a month. STAT panels are updated once a month, around the 13th. If the data doesn't match, you will receive an edit message. Due to Social Security processing schedules, their tapes to us may include changes to the MBR processed from one to six weeks before the tape run.

Data exchange is not permitted for General Assistance purposes only. Data obtained due to ANFC, Medicaid or Food Stamp participation may, however, be used for other programs.

Due to timing of update processing at SSA, Bendex SSI/AABD and Buy-In data may lag behind data reported by the primary automated reporting systems (SDX and Buy-In Billing).

Discrepancies between Bendex data and verified data furnished by an applicant or recipient must be resolved with the Social Security District Office by using the SSA-1610U2 or SSA-491-TC TPQY Input. Unclear or questionable reports may be checked with SSA using these forms or by a phone call.

Multiple Bendex Panels

Bendex processing may occasionally produce more than one Bendex panel or Bendex error listing for the same person, usually with different claim numbers. These reflect Social Security cash payment entitlements under more than one wage earner account, such as own record and as a dependent or survivor of one or more other wage earners. Multiple reports for the same person must be reviewed carefully to evaluate the information and assure correct input to the ACCESS data base.

The correct claim number for Title II (SSA) benefits is the one showing "CP" payment status. The benefit amount given under this number is the actual amount of the check certified for payment. This amount includes any amounts charged to other claim accounts and is net after any deductions (e.g., Medicare premiums).

The correct Medicare Claim Number is the one which shows current eligibility (if any) for Part A and/or Part B. (See ACCESS Manual for codes).

Family Bendex Panels

Each member of a family group entitled to Social Security cash

benefits on one wage earner's account has a separate claim payment account in the Social Security system. The accounts are identified by claim suffixes added to the wage earner's Social Security number.

Each separate claim account produces a Bendex panel or Bendex Error Report Listing (sent to Computer Services). Net payment to a family group will be the sum of the "CP" (current payment) amount for all members of the group.

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(Continued)

Children's benefits are usually paid to the parent with whom they are living (or other representative or guardian where appropriate). Bendex reports will show a "REP PAYE" communication code. The parent, if also entitled to Social Security cash benefits, normally receives a separate check. If more than one child is entitled on the same wage earner's account, the children's benefits are combined in one check payable to the representative payee.