P-2350 Case Management Procedures for Households with 60 or More Countable Months/Time limits (continued)

P-2350A Closures (24-20)

Engaging with Reach Up Services requirements

If a person who receives Reach Up and who has received 60 or more countable months of Reach Up does not engage in the Reach Up program, their benefit could close. A conciliation should be used first. Review Reach Up Services procedures <u>2345 Good Cause</u> and <u>2346 Conciliation</u>.

If the participant is struggling to attend meetings, make sure to offer options that accommodate different meeting preferences (such as over the phone, home or community visits, specific times of day). Closure should only be considered if a person receiving Reach Up has shown a pattern of non-engagement, and the conciliation was not successful.

Closure during the goal achievement process

Consider if a goal needs to be adjusted or changed, or if a different plan needs to be considered before moving toward closure (see Reach Up Services procedure 2310 on goal achievement).

It is important to remember that a participant could be in the review phase of Goal Plan Do Review and Revise (GPDRR) for a long time. As long as the participant is revising their goal or the steps of their plan, closure is not needed.

Consider the following and make sure to document the participant's progress in case notes:

- Have you used the review and revise portion of the GPDRR process, utilizing multiple tools when appropriate, to make sure the goal and plan is still what the participant wants to focus on?
- Have you revisited Stepping Stones (<u>Stepping Stones to Success</u>- ESD internal link only)to see if something else is rising to a higher level of priority?
- Have you offered support services to help remove barriers that might get in the way of accomplishing the goal or plan?
- Have you considered underlying reasons (mental health issues, domestic violence, etc) for the participant's lack of progress?
- After all of these efforts, is the participant still choosing to not set/change their goal or change their plan, but they continue to not take part in the do part of GPDRR?

Determining if closure is necessary during the goal achievement process is very subjective. Consult with the Reach Up Supervisor when unsure.

Closure Authorization

Complete a Closure Authorization (form 606CBA) and include the following:

- Specific information about the non-engagement;
- Explanation about why the closure will be implemented; and
- Rule cite(s) relied on to make this determination.

Give the completed Closure Authorization (<u>606CBA</u>) to the Reach Up Supervisor, or their designee, for review.

Review by Supervisor

The Reach Up Supervisor, or their designee, will determine:

- What were the participant's circumstances?
- Were multiple methods of communication attempted, was the goal achievement process used to determine the participant's goal(s)?
- Was good cause explored?
- Is the paperwork complete?
- Were Reach Up Eligibility rule 2234.1 and Reach Up Services rule 2327 followed?

The closure will be approved or reversed at this time.

Closure reversed

If the Supervisor decides to reverse the closure, it is recorded in the case file and e-mailed or discussed with the case manager or career coach.

Closure approved

If the Supervisor agrees with the decision and the closure is approved, they will sign off on the Closure Authorization (606CBA) on the district director/designee line. A copy of the signed 606CBA should be kept in the case management file and a copy should be scanned to OnBase.

Participant re-engages before closure date

If a participant closes for non-engagement of participation in Reach Up Services, they may re-open before their closure date if they have re-engaged with their Reach Up Case Manager/Career Coach (RUCM/CC) prior to closure. The RUCM/CC should notify the District Management Team that the participant has re-engaged and that the participant can be re-opened.

If the participant attempts to re-engage by contacting their RUCM/CC prior to the closure date, but the RUCM/CC is not able to accommodate a meeting time before closure date then the RUCM/CC should schedule a meeting as soon as

administratively possible and recommend to the participant that they will need to complete a new <u>202</u> application to re-apply.

If the participant attends that appointment scheduled and engages then the RUCM/CC should notify the District Management Team that the benefits can reopen and no new application process is needed. If the engagement happens after the closure date due to the RUCM/CC not being able to schedule before the closure date passed, benefits can be backdated and approved so there is no break in benefits.

<u>Example</u>: John Doe is closing 9/30/2024 for non-engagement in Reach Up Services with his Reach Up Case Manager. John Doe meets with his Reach Up Case Manager on 9/20/2024 and creates a Family Development and schedules a follow up appointment with Reach up Case Manager. John has re-engaged with his Reach up Case Manager. Reach Up Case Manager can notify the District Management Team and John's Reach Up can be re-opened and a new application is not needed.

Participant does not re-engage before closure date

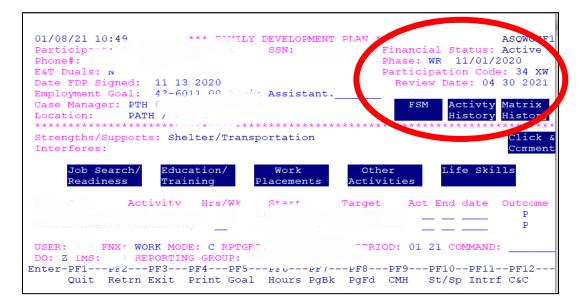
If a participant closes for non-engagement of participation in Reach Up Services and the closure date has passed without re-engagement then the participant will need to complete a new 202 application, complete an interview, and provide all other forms of verification to determine benefit eligibility. The participant would not need to meet with their Reach Up Case Manager/Career Coach (CM/CC) before benefits can be granted as they have closed and are now considered a new applicant.

If the participant completed a new 202 application, completed interview, and provided all other verification for eligibility determination prior to the closure date, but did not meet with their Reach Up CM/CC to re-engage in services then the application can be approved, but the benefit start date would be after the closure date.

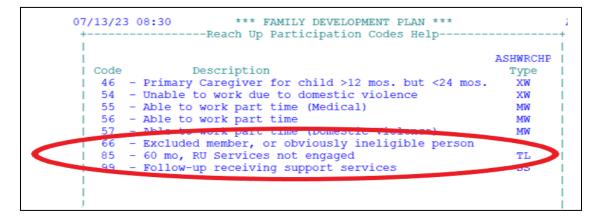
<u>Example:</u> John Doe is closing 9/30/2024 for non-engagement in Reach Up Services with his Reach Up Case Manager. John completed a new Reach Up application to apply for Reach Up and hands in on 9/20/2024. John **HAS NOT** had any contact with his Reach Up Case Manager or re-engaged in Reach Up Services. John's application will not be able to be APPLed until 10/1/2024 and John will need to complete an interview and provide all other relevant verification/documentation for program eligibility determination. If all information is in prior to 10/1/2024 the case can be approved, but start would be 10/1/2024.

Entering closure in ACCESS

Go to WORK C under the parent who is not engaging.



Enter code 85 in the Participation Code field and hit ENTER.



Code 85 is used to close a case for not engaging in Reach Up Services. Can only be entered for cases with at least 60 countable months.

Check CASE D TIME to see if the case closed. If it didn't, ask a Supervisor or BPS to turn the case around using STAT C TRANS. If the case is still not closed, check ELIG C RUFA. It may need to be approved (a closure notice will automatically be created).

Write a CATN with:

- Name of participant who did not comply
- Name of supervisor who approved closure
- Reason for closure

<u>EXAMPLE</u> language: "John closed August 31, 2023 due to 60-month requirements and not engaging with Reach Up services. Closure approved by (Reach Up Supervisor name)."

Closing an active currently sanctioned case

If a household reaches their 60th countable month while they are sanctioned and they need to close for not being engaged, use the following process.

Go to CASE C SANC.

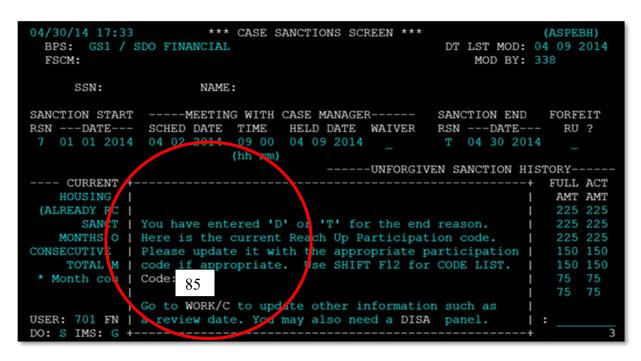
07/18/23 14:51 BPS: FSCM:	*** CASE SANCT	TONS SC	CREEN ***		LST MOD: MOD BY:	(ASPEBH) 00 00 0000
SSN:	NAME :			/		
SANCTION START RSNDATE 	MEETING WITH CASE SCHED DATE TIME HEL 00 00 (hh mm)	MANAGE D DATE	CR WAIVER		FION END DATE	
			-UNFORGI	VEN CAN	ICTION H	STORY
CURRENT SA	NCTION INFORMATION	S RSN		RSN	-END DATE	FULL ACT AMT AMT
	TECTION IN EFFECT? Yes PROTECTED MONTHS:		NO RUFA	SANCTIO	ON HISTOF	RΥ
SANCTION	\$ AMT APPLICABLE: 75					
MONTHS ON R	U SINCE JULY 2001: 11					
CONSECUTIVE MON	THS OF COMPLIANCE: 0					
TOTAL MO	NTHS OF SANCTIONS: 0					
USER: 934 FNX: DO: M IMS: GM1	CASE MODE: C RPTGRP: RPTGRP NAME:		PERIC	D: 07 2	23 COMMAN	ID:3

Enter "T" in the Sanction End Reason with the current date.

Shift F12 will bring up the help screen to see all reasons.

04/30/14 17:28 BPS: GS1 / S FSCM:		SPEBH) 09 2014
SSN: 008	+	+
		1 700
SANCTION START		IT
RSNDATE		?
7 01 01 2014	C - COMPLIED	
	D - DEFERRED	
	F - FOUND GOOD CAUSE	
CURRENT S	T - TRANSITION OFF SANCTION TO 60 MO RULES	ACT
HOUSING PR		AMT
(ALREADY RCVD	YOUR SELECTION: T	225
SANCTIO		225
MONTHS ON	You may see these codes which are created by ACCESS.	225
CONSECUTIVE MO	You may not enter them on-line.	150
	A - Continuation of sanction data (Administrative)	
* Month count	B - Break in benefits cured sanction	1 75
	Z - Person went off benefits under sanction	75
USER: 701 FNX:	+	+
DO: S IMS: GS1	RPTGRP NAME:	3

After entering "T" and hitting ENTER, ACCESS will prompt you to choose a 60 month code.



Enter participation code 85 and hit "Enter".

Check CASE D TIME to see if the case closed. If it did not, ask a supervisor or BPS to turn the case around using STAT C TRANS. If the case is still not closed, check ELIG C RUFA. It may need to be approved. A closure notice will automatically be created.

Write a CATN with:

- Name of participant who did not comply
- Name of supervisor who approved closure
- Reason for closure

Two parent households

If there are two parents receiving Reach Up and the non-engaging parent is not the head of household, enter any CATNs under both parent's SSNs (if possible).

Protected participation code

If the participation code is "protected" and ACCESS will not allow the code to be entered directly in WORK C, place cursor over the participation code, and hit Shift F12 for the Help field. Here the code should be unprotected and it can be updated to code 85.