

INTERPRETIVE MEMO

Reach Up Rule Interpretation

Procedural Instruction

This memo remains effective statewide until it is specifically superseded – either by a subsequent memo or by a contradictory rule with a later date.

Please file in your manual facing the page indicated below.

Facing page 2240; 2271; 2276(B) **Effective date of this memo** 7/1/2016 **Page** 1 of 1

This memo: is new **Replaces one dated** 8/1/2015

Act 172 of 2016 amended 33 V.S.A. § 1103(c) to reduce the amount of a parent’s Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment the Department must count when determining the amount of the family’s Reach Up financial assistance from \$125.00 to \$115.00.

If both parents receive SSI, a maximum of \$115.00 of the parents’ combined SSI payments will be counted. A child’s SSI payment will **not** be counted, even if a parent receives the payment on behalf of the child. Caretakers’ SSI payments will not be counted.

The Department will count up to \$115 of the SSI payment received by a parent as unearned income for the Reach Up assistance group. Parents who receive SSI will continue to be excluded from the Reach Up assistance group for all other purposes.