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**EFFECTIVE**

August 1, 2024.

**Subject(s)****Children's Clothing Allowance****Family Independence Program (FIP)**

The 2024 Fiscal Appropriations Act included funding for the children's clothing allowance. The allowance is intended to assist FIP families to purchase school clothing for their children.

The children's clothing allowance for the 2024 fiscal year is \$529 per child and is excluded as income for all programs.

**ELIGIBILITY  
CRITERIA**

The FIP eligibility determination group (EDG) must have an eligible dependent child on an active FIP EDG.

All eligible children on the FIP EDG will receive the clothing allowance. The eligible child(ren) must be eligible for FIP during August 2024. This includes children receiving SSI in the FIP EDG. Disqualified children will not receive the clothing allowance supplement.

***Exception:*** Children disqualified for not having a social security number will receive the clothing allowance supplement.

**Definition**

For purposes of the Children's Clothing Allowance, an eligible child is defined as a FIP mandatory group member that is a dependent child. These individuals may be indicated on the active FIP EDG as *Eligible Child* or *Other Child*.

**PAYMENTS**

Bridges will automatically issue supplements for the children's clothing allowance to FIP EDGs with qualifying children who are eligible for August FIP payments in Bridges as of the single deadline date of July 31, 2024. The children's clothing allowance supplement is deposited into the client's EBT cash account.

The supplement amount will include \$529 for each eligible child. The supplement will be automatically issued if the FIP EDG is active on July 31, 2024 for August benefits. A supplement will be deposited into the client's EBT cash account at the same time as the FIP payment is issued, but will appear as a separate payment, with an availability date of August 1, 2024. The supplement will be viewable in Bridges under *Benefit Issuance* and *View Benefits*.

Any request for new FIP EDG openings or member adds for August 2024 that are processed after the initial clothing allowance monthly payroll run for August will require an exception. Please contact the Bridges Resource Center in order to request a supplement for the FIP EDG.

**Note:** Once the funding for the children's clothing allowance is depleted, there will be no additional funds allocated, regardless of the eligibility of the FIP EDG.

A letter from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services director will be mailed to eligible clothing allowance supplemental households in July. This letter advises eligible families of the allowance coming in August to help with the cost of children's clothing.

For questions regarding this bulletin please contact the FIP policy mailbox: [Policy-FIP-SDA@michigan.gov](mailto:Policy-FIP-SDA@michigan.gov).

## LEGAL BASE

2024 Fiscal Appropriations Act (PA 119 of 2023).