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State of Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle

TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors

Income Maintenance Lead Workers

Income Maintenance Staff

W-2 Agencies

Workforce Development Boards Job Center Leads and Managers

Training Staff

Child Care Coordinators

FROM: Janice Peters, Director

Bureau of Working Families

Division of Family and Economic Security

DFES OPERATIONS MEMO No: 10-44					
DATE: JUNE 1, 2010					
FS SC W-2 CF RAP	RITY: I	MA CTS FSET JAL WIA		BC+ CC EA JC Other EP	*

SUBJECT: Non-Driving Related Revocation of Driving Privileges

CROSS REFERENCE: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/acts/09Act102.pdf

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 2010

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Operations Memo is to alert Wisconsin Works (W-2) agencies about Wisconsin Act 102 which was signed into law by Governor Jim Doyle on February 4, 2010 and took effect on May 1, 2010. The law ended automatic drivers license revocation under certain conditions.

BACKGROUND

Administrative driver's license revocations were previously applied to individuals for nondriving related offenses. Historically, non-driving related driver's license suspensions and revocations disproportionately affect low income people all across Wisconsin.

NEW LAW

2009 Wisconsin Act 102 makes court-ordered operating privilege revocation for a fourth offense permissive rather than mandatory and it eliminates the requirement that the Department of Transportation (DOT) administratively revoke a person's operating privilege for a fourth offense.

The Act allowed the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) to apply the law change retroactively, which was done over the weekend of May 1 and 2, 2010. The DOT released 106,012 non-driving related administrative revocations that had occurred over the past decade, positively impacting over 40,000 low-income drivers. Revocations that were ordered by judges were not released.

Some participants in the W-2 program who had their licenses revoked may now have the ability to obtain a valid driver's license and gain access to new employment opportunities.

ACTION REQUIRED

W-2 Agency staff should be aware of this law change and that individuals who had their drivers license revoked may now be able to obtain a valid driver's license. A list of the individuals for whom the revocation has been lifted has not been made available. Individuals affected by this law may visit the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to pursue Driver's License reinstatement. The best way to find out if this change in the law has affected a W-2 participant is for the individual to contact the DMV directly. The local W-2 agency should assist participants in this process.

The following web link describes the process for driver's license reinstatement. http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/revoke/revoked.htm

The following web link will help you find a DMV location near you. http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/about/locate/dmv/scmap.htm#city

CONTACTS

For Policy Related Questions: Regional Office Staff

For CARES Processing Questions: W-2/CC Help Desk

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, *Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

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