

MHCP Update: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Navigator/Certified Application Counselor Monthly Webinar

April 7, 2021

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) provides:

- Additional Recovery Rebates
- Unemployment Insurance Extensions

Bulletin #21-21-02 issued on 4/5/21!

Recovery Rebates - 3rd Round

- Direct payments
 - \$1,400 for tax payers with incomes under \$75,000
 - \$2,800 for joint tax payers with incomes under \$150,000
 - \$1,400 for each dependent for tax year 2021
 - Phases out for higher income taxpayers at \$80,000 / \$160,000
- Recovery rebates are not counted as income for Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare
- Recovery rebates are excluded as an asset for 12 months, for Medical Assistance for people age 65 or older, and people who are blind or who have a disability. Counted as an asset if retained beyond 12 months.

Unemployment Compensation Extensions

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)
 - Specifically for self-employed, independent contractors, and other people who are not eligible for regular unemployment benefits or extended unemployment insurance benefits in Minnesota or any other state.
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)
 - Provides additional weeks of unemployment insurance once an individual has exhausted regular state unemployment benefits.
- Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)
 - Supplements (add on) other unemployment payments a person is receiving
 - \$300/week
 - Specifically excluded from income for Medicaid (under the CARES Act)

MinnesotaCare Premiums

- Section 9661 increases premium tax credits for people who purchase a Qualified Health Plan through the Exchange.
 - MinnesotaCare premiums must be no higher than the premium an individual would pay, after a premium tax credit, for a Qualified Health Plan through the Exchange. (42 CFR 600.905)
 - We expect to make corresponding reductions to MinnesotaCare premiums for 2021 and 2022.
- *Pending Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' confirmation & guidance.

Thank You!

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