

days after the date on the face of such notice, unless there is a reasonable showing to the contrary.

(c) *Waiver of right to continued payment.* Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, the recipient, in order to avoid the possibility of an overpayment of benefits, may waive continuation of payment at the previously established level (subject to intervening events which would have increased the benefit for the month in which the incorrect payment was made, in which case the higher amount shall be paid), after having received a full explanation of his rights. The request for waiver of continuation of payment shall be in writing, state that waiver action is being initiated solely at the recipient's request, and state that the recipient understands his right to receive continued payment at the previously established level.

[43 FR 18170, Apr. 28, 1978, as amended at 65 FR 16815, Mar. 30, 2000]

§416.1337 Exceptions to the continuation of previously established payment level.

(a) *Multiple payments exception.* (1) Where it is determined that a recipient is receiving two or more regular monthly payments in one month, the Social Security Administration shall determine the correct payment amount and, as soon as practicable thereafter, send the recipient an advance written notice of intent to make subsequent payment in that amount. Payment for the following month shall be made in the correct amount, except as provided in paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(2) The advance notice shall explain:

(i) That multiple payments were made in the one or more months identified in the notice;

(ii) The correct amount of monthly benefits that the recipient is eligible to receive; and

(iii) The recipient's appeal rights.

(3) If an appeal is filed within 10 days after receipt of the written notice of intent, the highest of the two or more check amounts, or the correct amount if higher (subject to the dollar limitation provisions), shall be continued until a decision on such initial level of appeal is issued. See §416.1474 for criteria as to good cause for failure to file

a timely appeal. For purposes of this paragraph, the date of receipt of the notice of intent shall be presumed to be 5 days after the date on the face of such notice, unless there is a reasonable showing to the contrary.

(4) The fact that a recipient is receiving multiple payments is established if the records of the Social Security Administration show that:

(i) Two or more checks are being sent to an individual under the same name or a common logical spelling variation of the name;

(ii) The social security number is the same or a pseudo number appears;

(iii) The checks are being sent to the same address;

(iv) The sex code for such individual is the same; and

(v) The date of birth for such individual is the same.

(b) *Dollar limitation exception.* (1) Where it is determined that a recipient is receiving an erroneous monthly payment which exceeds the dollar limitation applicable to the recipient's payment category, as set forth in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, the Social Security Administration shall determine the correct payment amount and, as soon as practicable thereafter, send the recipient an advance written notice of intent to make subsequent payment in that amount. Payment for the following month shall be made in the correct amount, except as provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(2) The advance notice shall explain:

(i) That an erroneous monthly payment which exceeds the dollar limitation applicable to the recipient's payment category was made in the one or more months identified in the notice;

(ii) The correct amount of monthly benefits that the recipient is eligible to receive; and

(iii) The recipient's appeal rights.

(3) If an appeal is filed within 10 days after receipt of the written notice of the intent (see §416.1474 for criteria as to good cause for failure to file a timely appeal), the amount of payment to be continued, pending decision on appeal, shall be determined as follows:

(i) *Recipient in payment status.* Where the recipient is in payment status, the

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payment shall be in the amount the recipient received in the month immediately preceding the month the dollar limitation was first exceeded (subject to intervening events which would have increased the benefit for the month in which the incorrect payment was made, in which case the higher amount shall be paid).

(ii) *Recipient in nonpayment status.* If the recipient's benefits were suspended in the month immediately preceding the month the dollar limitation was first exceeded, the payment shall be based on that amount which should have been paid in the month in which the incorrect payment was made. However, if the individual's benefits had been correctly suspended as provided in §§ 416.1321 through 416.1330 or § 416.1339 and they should have remained suspended but a benefit that exceeded the dollar limitation was paid, no further payment shall be made to him or her at this time and notice of the planned action shall not contain any provision regarding continuation of payment pending appeal.

For purposes of this paragraph, the date of receipt of the notice of planned action shall be presumed to be 5 days after the date on the face of such notice, unless there is a reasonable showing to the contrary.

(4) The payment categories and dollar limitations are as follows:

PAYMENT CATEGORY AND DOLLAR LIMITATION

(i) *Federal supplemental security income benefit only.*—\$200.

Recipients whose records indicate eligibility for Federal supplemental security income benefits for the month before the month the dollar limitation was first exceeded.

(ii) *Federal supplemental security income benefit and optional supplementation, or optional supplementation only.*—\$700

Recipients whose records indicate they were eligible for Federal supplemental security income benefits plus federally-administered optional supplementation, or eligible for federally-administered optional supplementation only, for the month before the month the dollar limitation was first exceeded.

(iii) *Federal supplemental security income benefit and mandatory or other supplementation, or mandatory supplementation only.*—\$2,000

Recipients whose records show eligibility for Federal supplemental security income benefits and federally-administered mandatory supplementation or essential person increment for the month before the month the dollar limitation was first exceeded. This category also includes those eligible for federally-administered mandatory supplementation only and those eligible for Federal supplemental security income benefits plus an essential person increment and federally-administered optional supplementation.

[43 FR 18170, Apr. 28, 1978, as amended at 65 FR 40495, June 30, 2000]

§ 416.1338 If you are participating in a vocational rehabilitation program.

(a) *When your benefits based on disability may be continued.* Your benefits may be continued after your impairment is no longer disabling if—

(1) Your disability did not end before December 1980, the effective date of this provision of the law;

(2) You are participating in a program of vocational rehabilitation that has been approved under a State plan approved under Title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and which meets the requirements of 34 CFR part 361 for a rehabilitation program;

(3) You began the program before your disability ended; and

(4) We have determined that your completion of the program, or your continuation in the program for a specified period of time, will significantly increase the likelihood that you will not have to return to the disability benefit rolls.

Example: While under a disability from a severe back impairment, "A" begins a vocational rehabilitation program under the direction of a State vocational rehabilitation agency with a vocational goal of jewelry repairman. "A" is 50 years old, has a high school education, and worked as a route salesman for a bread company for 6 years before becoming disabled. Before "A" completes his training, his disability status is reviewed and a determination is made that he is able to do light work. Considering his age, education and work experience, "A" is no longer disabled. However, if "A" is able to work as a jewelry repairman, he will be considered able to engage in substantial gainful activity even if he can do only sedentary work. Therefore, it is determined that "A's" completion of the vocational rehabilitation program will significantly increase the likelihood that he will be permanently removed from the disability rolls. "A" will continue