

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

EAZ Manual

Revision # 828
Category Benefit Errors – Cash and Food Assistance Underpayments
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Summary

Added definition and example of *Date of Discovery for Department Errors* in Clarifying Information under WAC 388-410-0040:

CLARIFYING INFORMATION

Effect of Underpayments on Resources: The unspent amount of a cash assistance underpayment is not included in computing the value of a household's nonexempt resources in the month the underpayment is reimbursed or in the following month.

Date of Discovery for Department Errors: When the underpayment is discovered by the department, the *date of discovery* is the date we have adequate information to validate the household has an underpayment *and* determine the amount the household was underpaid. It is **not** the date the department received information or verification.

EXAMPLE

While processing an eligibility review on 01/01/12, the worker discovers that the household provided verification on 06/01/10 of a decrease in their direct support payments. The date of discovery is 01/01/12. The department can establish an underpayment for the 12 month period prior to 01/01/12. The household can request an administrative hearing if they think the underpayment should be for more than the allowable 12 month period.