# BadgerCare Plus 2014 Policy Changes: An Overview

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#### Goals for Today's Discussion

- Provide framework and background
- Describe at a high-level the BC+ policy changes
  - Income Limits
  - Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Rules
    - Household Composition
    - Income
    - Deductions
    - Other Policy Changes



#### **Background**

- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) implements:
  - Marketplace/Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM)
  - Advance Premium Tax Credits
  - New "MAGI" rules to align eligibility between Medicaid and the Marketplace
- The Governor's budget includes changes in income limits for some BadgerCare Plus groups



#### **Key Policy Changes**

- Income limit changes and coverage groups
  - Income limit changes for parents/caretakers, childless adults and children
  - No income limit changes for pregnant women,
     Family Planning Only or Medicaid for the Elderly,
     Blind or Disabled (EBD)
- MAGI budgeting rules
- Other policy changes



#### **Parents and Caretakers**

- Eligible at or below 100%FPL
  - No premiums
  - No insurance access and coverage test
- Over 100% FPL→Marketplace



#### **Childless Adults**

- Eligible at or below 100% FPL
  - Regular BC+ Members
  - No Processing fee
  - No Premiums
  - No mandatory HNA (Health Needs Assessment)
  - No Waitlist
- Over 100% FPL→Marketplace



#### Children

- Eligible at or below 300% FPL
  - Premiums over 200% FPL

Over 300% FPL→Marketplace



#### What is "MAGI"?

- MAGI = Modified Adjusted Gross Income
- Refers to new household composition and budgeting rules
- Introduced by PPACA to align BC+ eligibility rules with tax rule-based policy in the Marketplace



### Who is Subject to MAGI Rules?

- Our current BadgerCare Plus populations:
  - Children
  - Parents / caretakers
  - Pregnant women
  - Childless adults
  - Family Planning Only enrollees



## Who is Not Subject to MAGI Rules?

- MAGI rules do not apply to:
  - Elderly, blind and disabled groups
    - o EBD MA
    - o LTC
    - SeniorCare
    - QMB, SLMB, SLMB+
  - Categorically eligible populations
    - Former Foster Care Youth



#### **MAGI** Rules

- Household Composition
- Income
- Deductions



#### **Household Composition**

- MAGI introduces tax relationships into BC+ household composition
- Assistance groups are person specific
  - We have to look at household composition one person at a time
- Similar households may have very different outcomes, depending on their specific tax filing situation



### **Household Composition Cont.**

- Most rules are based on "what does the household expect to do?"
  - Who expects to file a tax return this year?
  - Whom do they expect to claim as a dependent?
- The ACCESS online application will be updated to gather necessary tax information
- The CARES eligibility system will determine eligibility based on new rules



#### Income

- Whose income is counted?
- What income types are counted?
- What deductions do we consider?



#### Whose Income Is Counted?

All MAGI group members' income will be counted.

#### Exception to the above rule:

- If the person is the child or tax dependent of someone else in a given group, then their income only counts if they are required to file a tax return.
- If a child is being tested on their own, that child's income is always counted.
- CARES will determine if the person will be expected to file a tax return

## What income types are counted?

- Countable income = taxable income
- Income no longer counted
  - Child support
  - Workers compensation
  - Veterans benefits



#### Changes in countable income

- New Income Types counted
  - Financial aid, if used for living expenses
  - All Tribal per capita payments
  - AmeriCorps income
  - Taxable retirement, pension and annuities
  - Interest & dividends
  - Lump sum income counted in month received



## Self Employment Income Budgeting Changes

- Allowed Expenses:
  - Depreciation
  - Depletion
  - Other Business Expenses
- Most self-employment losses can offset other types of income



#### **BC+ Deductions**

 Child Support Payment disregards are no longer allowed



#### **Tax Deductions:**

- MAGI allows the tax deductions listed on page 1 of Tax Form 1040. Examples include:
  - Student loan interest paid
  - Higher education expenses
  - Self-employment tax
  - > Certain retirement contributions
  - > Alimony payments
- Itemized deductions are not allowed



#### **Other Policy Changes**

- All BC+ members will be enrolled in the BC+ Standard Plan
- Changes in extensions policies
- RRP policy
- Pregnancy verification is no longer required unless questionable
- 12-month certification periods
- Former Foster Care Youth age limit to 26



#### **Implementation**

- ACCESS and CARES Worker Web changes
  - Updated November 16, 2013
- Income Limits
  - Mass change November 23, 2013
  - Effective January 1, 2014
- MAGI budgeting rules
  - New Applicants → MAGI rules as of January 1, 2014
  - Existing Members → MAGI rules beginning April 1, 2014 or at next renewal, whichever is later

Protecting and promoting the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin



#### **Training and Outreach**

- DHS IM Training Unit is offering training to address the policy and system changes for IM Consortia
  - 3 Phases
    - Phase I: High Level Overview (May June 2013)
    - Phase II: Details of BC+ 2014 Policy Changes (Aug Sept 2013)
    - Phase III: CARES changes (Oct Nov 2013)
- Partners and providers will receive outreach and training similar to Phase I and Phase II



#### Things to Keep in Mind

- Things are subject to change
  - Aggressive implementation timeline
  - Federal guidance not final
- We will do our best to keep partners and stakeholders informed



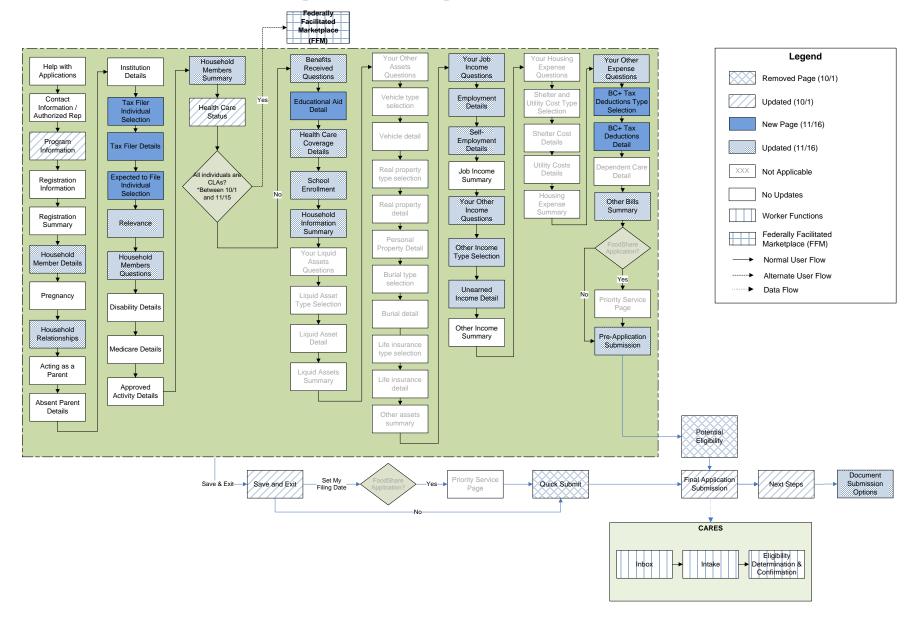
#### **Questions?**



## Changes to ACCESS "Apply for Benefits" (AFB)

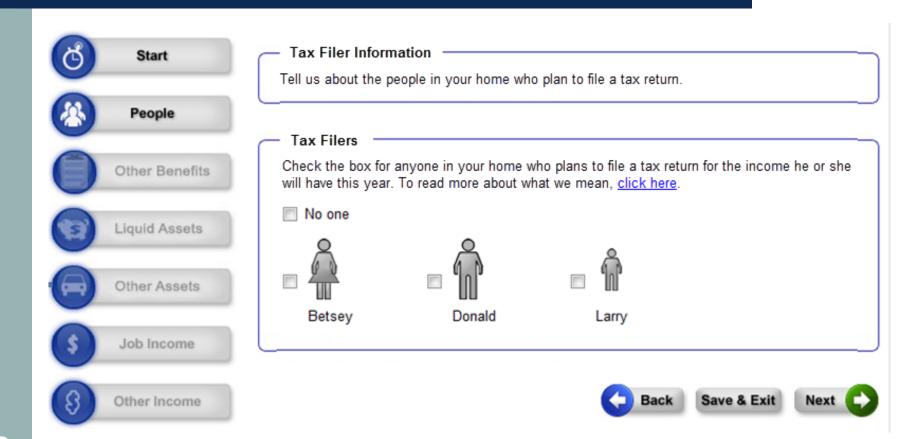
- AFB will maintain the same look and feel
- Pre- and post-application steps will remain the same
- Additions to the pages include:
  - Messaging around BC+ and the Marketplace
  - Questions about tax filing status and tax dependents
  - Income and deduction questions

#### Overview of page changes to AFB





#### Tax filing questions





## Tax filing questions (con't)



#### **Betsey's Taxes**

You have told us that Betsey is planning to file a tax return for the income he or she will have this year. Tell us more about Betsey's plans for filing.

#### Tax Dependents

Is Betsey planning to claim any tax dependents on No his or her tax return?

Check the box for anyone Betsey is planning to claim as a tax dependent. Check 'Someone else' if Betsey is planning to claim someone not listed here.



Someone else



#### "Required to file"

#### **Expected Income**

On this page, we are asking about the income of children and other tax dependents you have told us expect to get this year. We are asking this to find out who in your household may be required to file their own tax return.

#### Job Income

Check the box for anyone who expects to earn more than \$5,950 this year from a job.

No one



Barry

#### Self-Employment Income

Check the box for anyone who expects to earn more than \$400 this year from selfemployment.

No one



Barry

#### Other Income

Check the box for anyone who expects to get more than \$950 in taxable income this year from any source other than a job, self-employment or Social Security.

No one







Larry

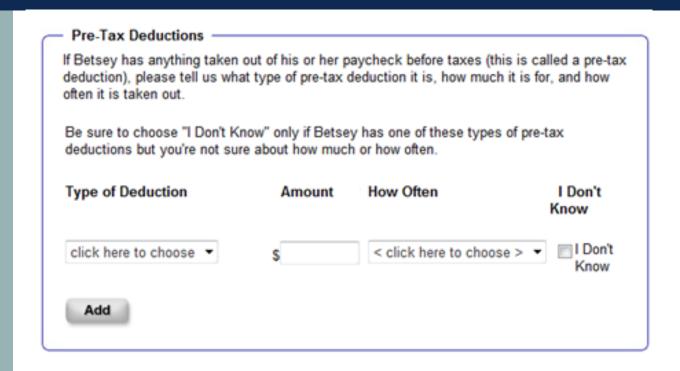


#### Changes to income types

- Income types no longer counted will be removed for BC+
- New income types will be added
- Pre-tax deductions will be added to the job income pages
- An Educational Aid & Expenses page will be added



#### **Pre-tax deductions**



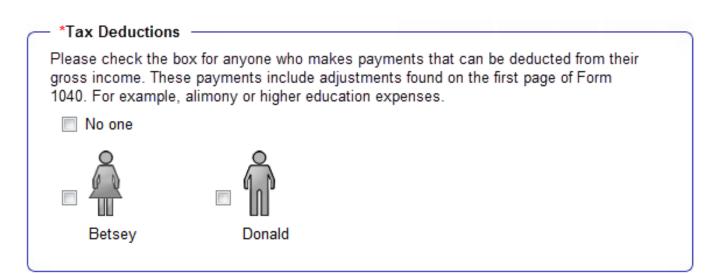


## **New Educational Aid page**

,		scholarships or other aid for education or us more about these grants, loans,
Grants, Loans, Scholars	hips or Other Aid Sen	nester/Trimester
When did the semester/trimester begin?		Ex:mm/yyyy
When did the semester/trimester end?		Ex:mm/yyyy
semester/trimester. If you ar		ucational aid Betsey receives for this t of the aid Betsey receives, please click
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#### Tax deductions





### Tax deductions, con't

BRENDA and .	JOHN's Tax Deductions ———	
	Do BRENDA and JOHN have any	of the following deductions?
	Alimony	Higher Education Expenses
	Self-employment Tax Deduction	Student Loan Interest
	Do BRENDA and JOHN have any of the following other deductions?	
∭ BRENDA	Domestic Production Activities	☐ Allowable Write-in Expenses ☐ Fee-based Official Tax-
0	Health Savings Account Contributions - Self	deductible Expenses
90	Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Contributions	Loss from Sale of Business Property
JOHN	Military Members' Tax- Deductible Expenses	Out-of-pocket Costs for a Job- related Move
	Health Savings Account	<ul> <li>Penalties for Early</li> <li>Withdrawal of Funds</li> </ul>
	Contributions - Family Performing Artists Tax- deductible Expenses Teachers' Tax-deductible	Self-employed SEP, Simple of Qualified Plan Contributions



#### **Questions?**