

**CIRCULAR**

**Date:** November 17, 2020

**CIRCULAR NUMBER:** COVID#: 2020-04R

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**To:** Employment and Income Assistance Program Managers

**Subject:** Extension of Rewarding Volunteer's Benefit (RVB)

**Reference:** Circular 2014-51, 2009-02 & 2009-02 SUPPLEMENT,  
**2020-102R – COVID EIA Gradual Restarting of Employment and  
Income Assistance Non-Essential Services**

**Program(s):** Employment and Income Assistance (EIA)

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**Type:**  Policy  For Internal Reference Only  
 Procedure  Information Only

**Effective Date** Immediately

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**This guidance reverses the section of Circular 2020-102 COVID – EIA which returned Rewarding Volunteer Benefit (RVB) to standard assessment procedures effective September 1, 2020.**

**Effective immediately, staff are to resume the temporary measure outlined below. In addition, staff are able to assess and issue retroactive eligibility where the RVB benefit may have been withheld since September 1, 2020.**

This circular is intended to inform staff that EIA participants with approved volunteer plans should continue to receive the Rewarding Volunteer's Benefit (RVB) and do not need to submit log sheets or meet the minimum volunteer hour requirements to receive the benefit at this time.

The EIA Program does not wish to create hardship for participants during the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants who received an RVB payment in the previous month should continue to have the same benefit amount issued for the subsequent month, regardless of actual volunteer hours.

This temporary measure will remain in effect until further notice.

If you have any questions, please contact William Grindell at 204-945-1259 or Vincent Villanueva at 204-945-2684.

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