


EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210	CLASSIFICATION SCSEP
	CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL DNPTTA
	DATE March 28, 2014

ADVISORY: TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER NO: 17-13

TO: SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM GRANTEEES

FROM: ERIC M. SELEZNOW 
Acting Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Exemption of Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Wages from Income Eligibility Determinations for Federal Housing Programs and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

1. **Purpose.** To provide SCSEP grantees with information about the statutory exemption of SCSEP wages for purposes of determining income eligibility for Federal housing programs and/or SNAP.
2. **References.** 42 U.S.C. 3056g; Older Americans Act (OAA) Amendments of 2006, Public Law 109-365; Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).
3. **Background.** Congress has exempted SCSEP wages from income eligibility determinations for Federal housing programs and food stamps through the OAA Amendments of 2000 and 2006 (42 U.S.C. 3056g). Local officials may be unaware of this exemption and treat SCSEP wages as regular earned income determining eligibility for these federally funded programs. Grantees and participants can use this TEGL as documentation to local officials for housing and SNAP eligibility determination.
4. **Advisory.** Title V of the OAA, authorizes the SCSEP. OAA Section 509, which is codified at 42 U.S.C. Sec. 3056g, specifies that the wages individuals receive as SCSEP participants are not to be included in income eligibility determinations for federally funded subsidized housing and /or SNAP. The full statutory provision is as follows:

Employment Assistance and Federal Housing and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs

RESCISSIONS TEGL No. 11-06	EXPIRATION DATE Continuing
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Funds received by eligible individuals from projects carried out under the program established under this subchapter shall not be considered to be income of such individuals for purposes of determining the eligibility of such individuals, or of any other individuals, to participate in any housing program for which Federal funds may be available or for any income determination under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

5. **Action Required.** Please distribute this TEG, as needed, to SCSEP participants for their use in applying for and continuing to receive Federal housing and/or SNAP.
6. **Inquiries.** Please direct questions to the appropriate regional Federal Project Officer.