

## Emergency Message

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Effective Dates: 02/26/2021 - Present

**Identification Number:** EM-21014  
**Intended Audience:** All RCs/ARCs/ADs/FOs/TSCs/PSCs/OCO/OCO-CSTs/OHO/OARO  
**Originating Office:** ORDP OISP  
**Title:** Supplemental Hardship Fund Payments to Jewish Nazi Victims One-Time-Only Instructions  
**Type:** EM - Emergency Messages  
**Program:** Title XVI (SSI); All Programs  
**Link To Reference:** See Reference at the end of this EM.

**Retention Date:** February 27, 2022

### A. Purpose

This EM provides instructions for excluding Supplemental Hardship Fund payments to Jewish Nazi victims from income and resource counting for SSI eligibility and payment amount.

### B. Background

The Claims Conference (Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany) is issuing payments from its Supplemental Hardship Fund to help Jewish Nazi victims experiencing financial challenges due to the pandemic. Eligible individuals will receive two supplemental payments at approximately \$1,400 each, for a total of \$2,800. There will be two installments, the first paid in December 2020 or in early 2021 and the second to be paid in 2022.

The Victims of Nazi Persecution Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-286) provides that any payments made to individuals because of their status as victims of Nazi persecution must be disregarded in determining eligibility for and the amount of benefits provided under any

needs-based federal program. Supplemental Hardship Fund payments are payable to individuals because of their status as victims of Nazi persecution. Thus, these payments are excluded from both income and resources for purposes of SSI.

### **C. Policy for income and resource treatment**

#### **1. Income and resource exclusion**

Exclude from income and resources, payments received from the Supplemental Hardship Fund. For more information on how to exclude payments to victims of Nazi persecution, see [SI 00830.710](#) and [SI 01130.610](#).

#### **2. Interest income**

Exclude from income any interest earned on Supplemental Hardship Fund payments. For more information on how to exclude interest income, see [SI 00830.500](#).

### **D. Procedure**

If an individual reports receiving payments from the Supplemental Hardship Fund, obtain the individual's statement, either signed or recorded on a locked Report of Contact (DROC) screen, of the amount(s) involved and the date(s) they received these payments. No further development or documentation is required.

Direct all program-related and technical questions to your Regional Office (RO) support staff or Program Service Center (PSC) Operations Analysis (OA) staff. RO support staff or PSC OA staff may refer questions, concerns or problems to their Central Office contacts.

### **E. Reference**

[SI 01130.700](#) Identifying Excluded Funds That Have Been Commingled With Nonexcluded Funds

[SI 00830.710](#) Payments to Victims of Nazi Persecution

[SI 01130.610](#) Payments to Victims of Nazi Persecution

SI 00830.500 Dividends and Interest

SI 00830.712 Treatment of Inherited Payments to Victims of Nazi Persecution

SI 01130.612 Treatment of Inherited Payments to Victims of Nazi Persecution

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