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## **Waivers and Variances of Reach First, Reach Up, Postsecondary Education, and Reach Ahead Program Rules under Act 6**

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Act 6, Sec. 4 of 2021 amended Act 140, Section 13 and continues to authorize the Agency of Human Services (AHS) to waive or permit variances of AHS rules to support children and families who receive benefits and services through the Department for Children and Families (DCF) through March 31, 2022.

The table below lists the rules that have been waived or varied for the Reach First, Reach Up, Postsecondary Education, and Reach Ahead Program Rules under Act 6. The DCF Economic Services Division (ESD) will provide at least 10 days advance notice to affected program participants before reducing or terminating benefits resulting from reinstatement of the rules.

<b>Rule Number</b>	<b>Description of Waiver or Variance</b>
2211.3 - Verification	(1) ESD will accept self-reported income if verification is unavailable. (2) ESD will allow applicants to self-report application for Unemployment Insurance if the applicant and ESD have first attempted to contact the Department of Labor.
2213.1 - Reviews	Reviews of eligibility for cases that did not already complete a review for the month of November were extended to May 2021.
2230.2 – Temporary Absence from the Home	Temporary absence cases may be extended based on household circumstances.
2238.1 – Termination after 60 Months	ESD will allow conciliation, prior to termination, for non-compliance with the program requirements.
2238.2 – Reapplication after 60 Months	ESD will waive the two-week period of compliance.
2240 – Formation of the Assistance Group	ESD will automatically determine all pregnancies to be high risk.

2276 – Excluded Income	Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) is excluded.
2322.1 – Application Phase	The initial FDP requirement is waived.
2333 – FDP Reviews and Modifications	ESD will waive all in-person meeting requirements.
2337 – Out-of-School Youth	Participation requirements for out-of-school youth are waived
2363 – Deferment or Modification of the Work Requirement	All Reach Up participants have automatically been determined “unable-to-work” and deferred from the work requirement.
2374 - Conciliation	ESD has lifted the one conciliation per year limit.
2480 – Annual Review	Reviews of eligibility for cases that did not complete a review for the month of November were extended for six months.