
N-FOCUS Interim Release

Combined All Divisions

May 18th, 2025

An Interim Release of the N-FOCUS System is being implemented May 18th, 2025. This document provides information explaining new functionality, enhancements and problem resolutions made effective with this release. This document is divided into four main sections and addresses all of the Divisions, MLTC, EA, CFS and DD.

General Interest and Mainframe Topics: All N-FOCUS users should read this section.

Home and Community Based Services: NFOCUS workers who work directly with DD Programs and those who work with the related Medicaid cases should read this section.

Note: This section will only appear when there are tips, enhancements or fixes specific to Developmental Disabilities Programs.

Expert System: All N-FOCUS workers with responsibilities for case entry for AABD, ADC Payment, SNAP, LIHEAP, CC, Medicaid, etc. should read this section.

Note: When new functionality is added to N-FOCUS that crosses multiple topics (i.e., General Interest and Mainframe, Alerts, Correspondence, Expert System etc.) the functionality will be described in one primary location. This location will usually be the General Interest and Mainframe section or the Expert System section. Alerts, Work Tasks and Correspondence that are part of the new functionality may be documented in both the primary location that describes the entire process in addition to being in the Alerts, Work Tasks and Correspondence sections.

ACCESSNebraska, Interfaces, Document Imaging and N-FOCUS Tips sections will be added as appropriate for the release.

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General Interest and Mainframe

EA – LIHEAP Cooling Eligibility Amounts (Update)

The benefit rates and income levels for the 2025 LIHEAP cooling season have been updated.

EA - SNAP Food Stamp Issuance History window order (Fix)

The SNAP Food Stamp Issuance History window displays a maximum of 300 records. Previously, the data was read from Food Stamp Issuance table ID Number and displayed in ascending order which did not allow the ability to view the most recent records. With this release, records will now be displayed and sorted by Entitle Date in descending order and the user will be able to change the sort from descending to ascending order.

Entitle Date	Issuance Type	Status	Auth Amt	Recoup Amt	Offset Amt
04/2025	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$151.00		
03/2025	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$151.00		
02/2025	REPLACEMENT	AUTHORIZED	\$60.00		
02/2025	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$151.00		
01/2025	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$173.00		
12/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$184.00		
11/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$184.00		
10/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$184.00		
09/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$175.00		
08/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$175.00		
07/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$175.00		
06/2024	MAJOR/REGULAR	AUTHORIZED	\$175.00		

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Expiry Date updates in Mainframe when case checked out to Expert System (Fix)

An issue was occurring where expiry dates were being updated in the Mainframe when the case was checked out to the Expert System. This was causing duplicate program case person history records to be created. Workers will no longer be able to update the expiry date in the Mainframe when the case is checked out to the Expert System.

All Divisions – Claim Payments Wage Threshold Limit Amount (Update)

The W2 wage threshold amount for determining if a provider receives a W2 tax form has changed from \$2700 to \$2800 effective 1-1-2025.

CFS – Service Type Tax Form Exclusions (Update)

Three services have been added to the table that determines if a service is exempt from the provider receiving a tax form:

9339 – Expense Reimbursement

8734 – LOA Placement Assessment – Out of Home Maintenance

7338 – LOA High Acuity – Out of Home Maintenance

Home and Community Based Services

HCBS - Application Management Window Labels (Change)

There are two label changes on the mainframe Application window and one label change on the Application Counts window. References to DD and Developmental Disabilities have been changed to reflect Home and Community Based Services.

Application window:

'Statewide Developmental Disabilities' has been changed to 'Statewide Home and Community Based Services.'

The screenshot shows the 'N-FOCUS - Application' window. The 'Application Processing' section is active. It includes a 'Next Application' button, a 'View Working' button, and a 'Counts' button. The 'Logon' section shows 'DSSZ900' and a list of services: 'Statewide Economic Assistance', 'Statewide Medicaid', and 'Statewide Home and Community Based Services' (which is highlighted). The 'Application Search' section has fields for 'Application Number', 'Applicant Name' (Last, First), and 'Search Method' (Exact Spelling, Partial Name, Sounds Like). There are checkboxes for 'Limit to Disaster Applications', 'Limit to Economic Assistance Apps', 'Limit to Medicaid Applications', and 'Limit to Home and Community Based Services Applications' (which is checked). The 'Submitted Disaster Applications' section is also visible. The 'Application Received Date' section has 'Options' set to 'Six Months', 'From' set to '11-03-2024', and 'To' set to '05-02-2025'. There are 'Prev' and 'Next' buttons. The bottom status bar shows '05-02-2025' and '13:53:42'.

The search 'Limit to DD Applications' has been changed to 'Limit to Home and Community Based Services Applications.'

Application Counts dialog box:

'Application Counts for Statewide Developmental Disabilities' has been changed to 'Application counts for Statewide Home and Community Based Services.'

DD- Service Coordination Rate (Update)

The DD service coordination rate has been updated from \$376.65 to \$392.60 effective 7-1-2025. Service authorizations will be updated the week following the release.

Correspondence

CFS – APS Substantiated Findings Notice to Perpetrator (Update)

Several updates have been made to the APS Substantiated Findings Notice to Perpetrator correspondence:

- The spelling of the word 'Substantiated' has been corrected in the Allegation Finding heading.
- The address was removed from the CFS Specialist signature line.
- A signature line has been added for both CFS Specialist and CFS Supervisor.
- If the CFS Specialist and/or CFS Supervisor does not have a valid phone number assigned to them, the hotline number of (800)652-1999 will display as their phone number.
- If the CFS Specialist does not have a CFS Supervisor assigned to them, 'Vacant' will appear as the CFS Supervisor name and the hotline number of (800)652-1999 will display as their phone number.

Interfaces

Integrated Unemployment Compensation (IUC) Disqualified Reason (Update)

Two new Unemployment Disqualified reason codes have been added by the Department of Labor that may display for certain recipients:

- Claim Denial Warning
- Working on a Commission Basis

Expert System

EA – ADC/RCA Standards of Need and Payment Max (Update)

The Aid to Dependent Children and Refugee Cash Assistance standards of need and payment maximums have been updated effective 7-1-2025. MESA will process budgets later in June.

EA – MESA Alert Not Getting Created (Fix)

There was an issue with MESA alerts for SNAP not getting created in some MESA runs where both the Medicaid and SNAP budgets could not run. Only the Medicaid alert was created. This has been resolved, and the EA/SNAP alert will be created.

EA – Refugee Cash Assistance Eligibility Period (Change)

The Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program from the Office of Refugee Resettlement will now offer 4 months of eligibility (changed from 12 months) based on the applicant's US Entry Date in NFOCUS.

Applicants with a US Entry Date of May 5, 2025, or later will receive 4 months of eligibility. Those with a US Entry Date in NFOCUS previous to May 5, 2025, will still receive their original 12 months of eligibility.

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Renewal Budget Purpose (Update)

A fix was deployed for April that allowed the renewal budget purpose to show in months after the expiry date ended. However, it was still showing 'Renewal' for the month the expiry date ended which caused errors for processing the month after the expiry date ended if child was placed in a CE status the month the expiry date ended. Example: child had expiry date of 4-30-25 a budget was run for that month and there was an income change that would put them over income for MAGI child category which caused a CE Lock or Save status to be applied to that child. When workers would run the next month following the expiry date 5-2025, in this example, the CE Lock would remain in place in error. This fix would only allow the renewal budget purpose to show in months after the expiry date ends.

Example of the updates are Program Case Review Date: 4-30-2025 Person's Expiry Date: 4-30-2025

Benefit Month being run:

03-2025 Budget Purpose = Change

04-2025 Budget Purpose = Change

05-2025 Budget Purpose = Renewal

06-2025 Budget Purpose = Renewal

07-2025 Budget Purpose = Renewal

With this updated Renewal Logic, if a case is closed for 'Review not Complete' and is reopened in a month before the 90 days that is not the month after the expiry date, the results for renewal will be incorrect. Example: a case is closed for 1-2025 for Review not complete and had an expiry date of 12-31-24. An application is received 2-2025 and the case is Pended for the month of 2-2025. If the budget is run without reopening and running the budget for 1-2025, this will cause an error. If the budgets are processed this way, it will cause the renewal budget purpose to display in the come-up month's budget and push the expiry date forward in error. In this example, if the case closed for 12-31-2024 and the worker reopens for 2-2025 and runs this budget, a budget purpose of renewal will show and update expiry date correctly, but it will also show renewal in the month of 3-2025 and update expiry date again because of the renewal budget purpose. The Renewal logic was designed based on a worker reopening the month they were closed and processing forward if they are closed less than 90 days. If they are closed for over 90 days, there this is not an issue as the budget purpose will show 'Initial' as expected and generate a new expiry date based on that new application month.

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Incorrect Budget Purpose Displaying (Fix)

Several issues were reported regarding an incorrect budget purpose displaying for individuals. For example, people were set to 'Initial' when they should have been set to 'Change' causing the expiry date to update multiple times as budgets were being run. Examples include a parent who was active and closed and was Financially Responsible in the case, then reopened over 90 days later to process an application. Another example was an initial application for a child with a closed retro med case prior to budgeting the initial application month. The child with a closed retro case had a budget purpose of 'Initial' that continued through the months budgeted after the application month. The budget purpose should have been updated to 'Change' in those months instead of staying 'Initial.'

Cases closed for 'Review not complete' and then reopened and processed in the month after the expiry date ended were not set to budget purpose of 'Renewal' causing the wrong expiry date to be populated.

The 'Renewal' budget purpose was not displaying when a renewal was being processed for a child where the category changed from Non-MAGI to MAGI. Errors were occurring in budgeting and the expiry dates were not updated.

These issues have been resolved.

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Continuous Eligibility Child Lock Issue (Fix)

An issue was occurring where a child up for renewal was over income for CHIP, but the system was applying the Continuous Eligibility Lock/Save. The correct scenario was the budget should have failed for over income rather than the Lock/Save being applied. This issue has been resolved.

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Pregnant Woman/Post Partum Continuous Eligibility Issues (Fix)

A woman with a pregnancy record with the end reason of 'Not Pregnant' was allowing that individual Pregnant Woman/Post Partum Continuous Eligibility when it should not have been. The results should be the individual is not eligible for Pregnant Woman/Post Partum 'Lock' to be applied during budgeting. This issue will be resolved with this release. To correct existing errors, budgets will need to be recalculated to update and remove the status reason of PW/PP Lock from the individual. If the expiry date was updated previously because of the pregnancy to cover the post-partum period, this will need to be updated back to the correct date based on their renewal cycle.

There was an issue allowing women with children under age 1 to have Pregnant Woman/Post Partum Continuous Eligibility regardless of mom's Medicaid eligibility the month of child's birth. This will now allow only women that were eligible for Medicaid on the child's birth date to be eligible for PW/PP CE during budgeting. The woman will be eligible for PW/PP CE only if they were eligible for a full coverage Medicaid category on the date that baby was born. This issue will be resolved with this release.

Another issue occurring was the Pregnant Woman/Post Partum Lock was not being applied at the application month when a retro month passed but the application month failed. This issue will be resolved with this release.

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Incorrect Expiry Date (Fix)

An incorrect expiry date was getting set for the initial processing month. Example: The initial month processed was 2-2025. The system was creating an expiry date of 2-28-26 instead of 1-31-26. This has been resolved for cases where the budget purpose is 'Initial.'

MLTC – Flex Budgeting Expert System Notice Issues (Fix)

There have been several notice issues reported including renewal notices not generating, missing people from notices, and issues with Non-MAGI individuals with Medicare. The renewal notices will now be created when the budget purpose is 'Renewal' and include those individuals that had a renewal completed.

Note that Medicare notice issues are not fixed with this release. An individual that has Medicare and is eligible for either a Buy-in only category or eligible for AABD/QMB notices will still need to be manually created until that issue is resolved in a future release.