

PO 220.6: Continuing Benefits at the Previous Level

PR 220.6.

Continue benefits in the previous amount if the client files the appeal by the later of:

- the date of change; or
- the 10th calendar day after the date of notice.

The date of change is the scheduled mailing date of the affected benefits. Day one of the 10-day period is the day after the date of notice. Continue benefits if the date of change or the 10th day is a non-workday and the appeal is received or postmarked by the next workday.

Do not continue benefits if the client asks that benefits be stopped. If benefits are continued at the present level and the appeal decision upholds the GA office action, any assistance received while the appeal is pending, which the client would not have received if they had not appealed, must be recovered from the client.

The amount of benefits may be changed or even canceled during the appeal process. However, this change must be for a reason other than the issue being appealed. The client has to receive a written notice of change before we change their benefits due to the new reason.

Be aware of any changes in case status or benefit amount while the appeal is pending. Consider these changes when taking any action in response to the appeal ruling or to a client's request to withdraw the appeal.

When benefits are continued during an appeal over the budgeting of income, the continuation only affects the month under appeal. Continue to determine future months' benefits using regular budgeting methods.