



COMMISSIONER  
Adelaide Horn

March 17, 2009

To: All DADS Service Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 09-29  
Economic Stimulus Single Payment

This notice is to inform all providers of services through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) of a single payment provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Act, signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009, will result in payments to nearly 55 million Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries. Payments will be issued in May 2009. Please share this information with your consumers, their family members, guardians and your staff.

### **Background**

A one time economic recovery payment of \$250.00 will be paid to qualifying adults (age 18 and older) who are eligible for benefits from one of the following Federal benefit programs:

- Social Security,
- Supplemental Security Income (adults and children receiving cash benefits, except those receiving Medicaid in care facilities),
- Veteran Administration benefits, and
- Railroad Retirement benefits.

Individuals eligible for these benefits for any of the three months prior to the month of enactment (November, December 2008, or January 2009) will receive the one-time payment. People who receive more than one of these benefits will receive only one payment of \$250. The payment will be received in the same way the current benefit is received i.e., check, monthly direct deposit or Direct Express® debit card payment.

**No action is required on the part of individuals who receive the above benefits to obtain their \$250 payment.**

Each beneficiary has the right to determine how his or her economic recovery payment is spent.

### **Medicaid Eligibility**

The one-time payment is not counted as income in the month the payment is received and is not counted as a resource for the nine months following the month the payment is received. For this time period, the payment does not affect the beneficiary's:

- Medicaid eligibility,
- applied income or co-pay,
- spousal allowances or Spousal Protected Resource Amounts, or
- transfer penalty if the payment is transferred or given away.

The funds become a countable resource effective the tenth month following the month received.

**Example:** If the Economic Recovery Single Payment of \$250 is received on May 15, 2009, the following circumstances apply:

- The \$250 payment is not counted as income for May 2009.
- The \$250 payment is not counted as a resource through the following nine months (the end of February 2010) for financial eligibility determination.
- Funds remaining from the \$250 payment are countable as a resource as of 12:01 a.m. on March 1, 2010.

### **Overview and Additional Sources of Information**

**This program is administered by the federal government through the Social Security Administration (SSA).**

The Social Security Administration has provided information for beneficiaries and the public through their web site at: <http://www.ssa.gov/payment/>.

Responses from SSA to Frequently Asked Questions about the Economic Recovery Payments are provided by clicking on the following link: [FAQ ERP](#)

Additional information will be mailed in April, by the SSA, to all individuals who will receive these benefits.

### **Please Note:**

**The Social Security Administration requests that beneficiaries and payees not contact SSA unless their payment is not received by June 4, 2009.**

If you have questions regarding the information in this letter, please visit the above websites or call the SSA's toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213.

Sincerely,

*[signature on file]*

Tommy Ford, Director  
Institutional Services Section  
Provider Services

*[signature on file]*

Michelle Dionne-Vahalik  
Director  
Community Services