TEXAS
Health and Human Services

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Executive Commissioner

MEPD and TW Bulletin 25-03

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To: Eligibility Services Supervisors and Staff
Program Managers
Regional Directors
Policy Attorneys
Hearings Officers

From: Access and Eligibility Services Program Policy
State Office 2106

Subject: **Asset Verification System and TIERS Updates**

The information in this bulletin will be included in a future handbook revision. Until the handbook is updated, staff must use the information in this bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the policy information in this bulletin, follow regional procedures.

Active bulletins are posted on the following websites:

- Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities Handbook (MEPDH) at https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/mepd/policy-bulletins;
- Texas Works Handbook (TWH) at https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/texas-works-bulletins.

Asset Verification System and TIERS Updates

Background

Federal regulations require states to access all available electronic data sources (ELDS) and attempt to determine and redetermine eligibility using reliable information in the case record and information available through ELDS.

The Asset Verification System (AVS) is an online data source that provides financial account information for a person applying for certain Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities (MEPD) types of assistance (TOAs).

This bulletin provides additional policies and processes to support the implementation of the AVS policy provided in

- MEPD and TW Bulletin 24-08 Asset Verification System as Verification,
- MEPD and TW Bulletin 24-13 Updates to Asset Verification System as Verification, and
- MEPD and TW Bulletin 24-16 Additional Updates to Asset Verification System

Current Policy

MEPD

The AVS response includes the following types of financial accounts:

- Annuity
- Burial Funeral
- Certificate of Deposit (CD)
- Checking Account
- Christmas ("Xmas") Club
- Convertible Bond
- Custodial Other
- Custodial Retirement
- Individual Retirement Account (IRA)
- Keogh
- Money Market
- Other
- Rent Security
- Savings Account
- Trust

Note: Christmas ("Xmas") Club accounts are a type of savings account.

Review the accounts on AVS response and compare with the resources listed in case record. If the AVS response includes an account type that is not listed on the Liquid Resource LUW, create the appropriate resource record. Custodial Other, Custodial Retirement and Rent Security are types of trust accounts. Review the AVS response to determine the type of trust, create a new resource record and follow trust account policy for treatment of a trust including review by legal. Pend the case for additional information if needed to determine whether the trust is a countable resource.

New Policy

MEPD

Burial Funeral and Money Market financial accounts are considered types of savings accounts.

New Process

Select *Bank Account Savings* from the *Liquid Resource Types* dropdown menu when manually entering the following accounts in TIERS.

- Christmas ("Xmas") Club
- Burial Funeral
- Money Market

TIERS Updates

Liquid Resource – Details LUW

For the question '*Was Liquid Resource transferred?*,' staff may now select 'N/A' when processing a non-AVS TOA. For AVS TOAs refer to MEPDH R-3740 Asset Verification System (AVS).

The question 'Was transfer of Liquid Resource discovered by AVS?,' enables based on the answer to the question 'Was Liquid Resource transferred?.'

If the answer to the question *'Was Liquid Resource transferred?,'* is:

- *YES* – then '*Was transfer of Liquid Resource discovered by AVS?*' is enabled as a mandatory question. Once staff select 'Next' the 'Transfer' tab will open.
- *NO* – then *'Was transfer of Liquid Resource discovered by AVS?'* will be disabled.
- *N/A* – then *'Was transfer of Liquid Resource discovered by AVS?'* will be disabled.

Transfer /Joint Ownership	
Was Liquid Resource transferred?	NO
Was transfer of Liquid Resource discovered by AVS?	

Note: For potential transfer of resources, request verification from individual. Refer to MEPDH R-3744, Consideration of AVS Information.

Eligibility Summary

EDG#	TOA	Benefit Period	Benefit Amount	CG Size	Eligibility Status (PRA Appeal with cont. benefit)	Pending Reasons		Authorization Status (Overridden)	Authorization Date
						VCL	Other		

When an AVS TOA is processed at application, renewal, program transfer (community TOA to institutional TOA) or add a person, and AVS was not requested in the previous 60 days, after EDBC is run, the AVS TOA will *Other Pend, and staff will see the following hyperlinked text.*

Pending Reason(s) for Individual(s)

Individual Name: [redacted] Individual # [redacted]

1)Reminder: Request AVS to complete the process. Individual ID [redacted] Ensure you are requesting for the correct amount of months, based on the type of coverage.

Pending Reason(s) for Sanction(s)

Staff can click on the hyperlinked text to be routed back to the *Edit Existing Individual ID Information* LUW to request AVS information.

The message above will not appear when:

- completing a renewal and AVS was requested during the Automated Administrative Renewal process;
- processing a case in *Change Action Mode*; or
- the AVS TOA is denied.

ELDS Block

The ELDS block with AVS financial account information currently only displays in the *Liquid Resources – Summary* LUW.

The AVS response may include financial account information for the following account types not listed in *the Liquid Resource* LUW.

- Trust
- Custodial Retirement
- Custodial Other
- Rent Security
- Other

To ensure the AVS information will not auto populate for one of the above account types, select the 'remove' option and then create the appropriate resource record in the correct LUW.

For account type 'other' staff must research to determine what type of financial account it is and use an applicable existing Liquid Resource Type option.

AVS Resource Type Matching
The following *Account Type/Liquid Resource Types* on the ELDS Block are automatically entered as *Bank Account - Savings* on the *Liquid Resource -Details LUW*.

- Burial Funeral
- Money Market
- Christmas ("Xmas") Club

Changes to TIERS are currently scheduled to be implemented with TIERS Release 119.1 on Feb. 22, 2025.

Handbook
The MEPDH is currently scheduled to be updated in September 2025 revision.

Updates to the TWH are not required.

Training

Training is not required.

Effective Date

This policy is effective with TIERS Release 119.1 currently scheduled for Feb. 22, 2025.