

**§3811. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1993, c. 654, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Assistance unit.** "Assistance unit" means the individuals whose need the department considers when determining whether an applicant or recipient is eligible for program benefits. [PL 1993, c. 654, §1 (NEW).]

**1-A. Caretaker relative.** "Caretaker relative" as defined by rules adopted by the department means any person, regardless of age, who applies for and receives assistance on behalf of a dependent child. [PL 2001, c. 551, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Obligor.** "Obligor" means an individual who receives an overpayment or an adult individual who is a member of an assistance unit that receives an overpayment. [PL 1993, c. 654, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Overpayment.** "Overpayment" means program benefits that exceed the amount of program benefits for which an individual or assistance unit is eligible when the department or a court has determined that the benefits were provided as a result of an intentional program violation, an unintentional error by the individual or household or an error by the department. "Overpayment" does not include an overpayment for medical services by the department pursuant to chapter 855 or municipal general assistance pursuant to chapter 1161, if the overpayment occurred due to an unintentional error by the individual or household or an error by the department or by the municipality in the case of municipal general assistance under chapter 1161. [PL 2011, c. 687, §11 (AMD).]

**4. Program benefits.** "Program benefits" means money payments or food coupons issued by the department pursuant to an application for benefits made by an individual to Aid to Families with Dependent Children established in former chapter 1053, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established in chapter 851 or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program established in chapter 1053-B, or money payments or vouchers issued by a municipal general assistance program established pursuant to chapter 1161, or payments for medical services issued by the department pursuant to the MaineCare program established pursuant to chapter 855. [PL 2023, c. 405, Pt. C, §12 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1993, c. 654, §1 (NEW). PL 1997, c. 466, §27 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 466, §28 (AFF). PL 1997, c. 530, §A34 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 683, §C9 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 683, §C10 (AFF). PL 2001, c. 551, §1 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 687, §§11, 12 (AMD). RR 2015, c. 1, §22 (COR). PL 2023, c. 405, Pt. C, §12 (AMD).

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