

§ 115.605

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§ 115.605 What information will the BIA include in its notice of the decision to restrict your IIM account?

(a) When the BIA provides notice of its decision to restrict your IIM account by certified mail or personal delivery to you or your guardian, as applicable, the notice must contain:

- (1) The name on the IIM account;
- (2) The reason for the restriction;
- (3) The amount to be encumbered, if applicable;
- (4) A statement that your IIM account will be restricted 5 days after the date the notice was sent United States certified mail to your address of record;
- (5) An explanation that you have 40 days from the date the notice was sent United States certified mail to request a hearing to challenge BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account;
- (6) An explanation of how to request a hearing;
- (7) A statement that the BIA will conduct the hearing and that you are assured a fair hearing;
- (8) A copy of the fair hearing guidelines;
- (9) A statement that you may contact the BIA to authorize immediate payment from your IIM account to pay the claim, if applicable;
- (10) The address and phone number of the BIA office that made the decision to restrict your IIM account and provided the notice; and
- (11) Other information as may be determined appropriate by the BIA.

(b) When the BIA provides public notice of its decision to restrict your account, the only information the public notice will include is:

- (1) The name on the account;
- (2) The date of first publication of the public notice;
- (3) A statement that the BIA has decided to place a restriction on your IIM account;
- (4) A statement that the public notice will be published once a week for four consecutive weeks;
- (5) A statement that the BIA will place a restriction on your account five (5) days after the date of the fourth publication of the public notice;
- (6) A statement that your opportunity to request a hearing to challenge BIA's decision to restrict your

account will expire 30 days after the date of the fourth publication of the public notice; and

(7) An address and telephone number of the BIA office publishing the notice to request further information and instructions on how to request a hearing.

§ 115.606 What happens if you do not request a hearing to challenge BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account during the allotted time period?

If you or your guardian, as applicable, do not request a hearing to challenge BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account during the allotted time period, BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account will become final. BIA will follow the procedures outlined in § 115.616 through § 115.618, and § 115.620, as applicable.

§ 115.607 How do you request a hearing to challenge the BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account?

You or your guardian, as applicable, must request a hearing to challenge the BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account from the BIA office that made the decision and notified you of the restriction. Your request must:

- (a) Be in writing;
- (b) Specifically request a hearing to challenge the restriction; and
- (c) Be hand delivered to the BIA office or postmarked within:
 - (i) 40 days of the date that BIA's notice was sent United States certified mail or personally delivered to the address of record, or
 - (ii) 30 days of the date of the final publication of the public notice.

§ 115.608 If you request a hearing to challenge BIA's decision to restrict your IIM account, when will BIA conduct the hearing?

BIA will conduct a hearing within ten (10) working days from its receipt of a written request from you or your guardian, as applicable, for a hearing to challenge the decision to restrict your IIM account.

§ 115.609 Will you be allowed to present testimony and/or evidence at the hearing?

Yes, you or your guardian, as applicable, will be provided the opportunity

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to present testimony and/or evidence as to the reasons the BIA should not restrict your IIM account, including information showing how an encumbrance may create an undue financial hardship, if applicable. You may not challenge a court order or judgment in this proceeding. However, if you have appealed an order or judgment from a court of competent jurisdiction, you or your guardian, as applicable, may present evidence of your appeal and the BIA hearing will be postponed until there is a final order from the court. The restriction on your IIM account will remain in place until after the hearing is concluded.

§ 115.610 Will you be allowed to present witnesses during a hearing?

Yes, you or your guardian, as applicable, may present witnesses during a hearing. You are responsible for any and all expenses which may be associated with presenting witnesses.

§ 115.611 Will you be allowed to question opposing witnesses during a hearing?

Yes, you or your guardian, as applicable, may question all opposing witnesses testifying during your hearing. You may also present witnesses to challenge opposing witness testimony.

§ 115.612 May you be represented by an attorney during your hearing?

Yes, you may have an attorney or other person represent you during your hearing. However, you are responsible for any and all expenses associated with having an attorney or other person represent you.

§ 115.613 Will the BIA record the hearing?

Yes, the BIA will record the hearing.

§ 115.614 Why is the BIA hearing recorded?

The BIA hearing will be recorded so that it will be available for review if the hearing process is appealed under § 115.107. The BIA hearing record must be preserved as a trust record.

§ 115.615 How long after the hearing will BIA make its final decision?

BIA will make its final decision within 10 business days of the end of the hearing.

§ 115.616 What information will be included in BIA's final decision?

BIA's final written decision to the parties involved in the proceeding will include:

- (a) BIA's decision to remove or retain the restriction on the IIM account;
- (b) A detailed justification for the supervision or encumbrance of the IIM account, where applicable;
- (c) The amount(s) to be paid, the name and address of a third party to whom payment will be made, and the time period for repayment established under § 115.617(a) of this part, where applicable;
- (d) Any provision to allow for distributions to the account holder because of an undue financial hardship created by the encumbrance, if applicable; and
- (e) Any other information the hearing officer deems necessary.

§ 115.617 What happens when the BIA decides to supervise or encumber your IIM account after your hearing?

BIA will provide OTFM with a copy of the distribution plan, after the BIA decides to:

- (a) Supervise your IIM account. BIA social services staff will consult with you and/or your guardian to develop a distribution plan. Upon BIA approval, the distribution plan will be valid for one year.
- (b) Encumber your IIM account. BIA will review your account balance and your future IIM income to develop a distribution plan that establishes the amount(s) to be paid and the dates payment(s) will be made to the specified party. Payments may need to be made over the course of one or more years if the amount owed to the specified party is greater than your current IIM account balance.