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Department of Transitional Assistance
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Secretary

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Field Operations Memo 2002-18
August 5, 2002

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff

From:  Cescia Derderian, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re: Elimination of the Supplemental Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (STAFDC) Program

Overview

The FY 03 budget requires the elimination of the STAFDC program. The elimination of this program for new applicants is effective August 5, 2002.

This Field Operations Memo gives initial procedures for processing applicants and recipients impacted by the elimination of this program.

STAFDC Applicants

Any individual whose application includes a noncitizen who is not eligible for TAFDC must be informed that the STAFDC program has been eliminated and no STAFDC benefits can be authorized. However, everyone has the right and must be afforded the opportunity to apply, whether or not he or she appears eligible.

Applications must be taken to determine eligibility for the entire AU, especially those containing a TAFDC-eligible individual. AU Managers are reminded that an AU must be notified using an NFL-5 when a noncitizen household member is denied.

Noncitizens ineligible due to this change must be informed that if their noncitizen status changes, they should contact the Department to see if the change impacts their eligibility.

**Ongoing
STAFDC AUs**

AU Managers do not need to take action to reduce benefits for STAFDC recipients at this time. Procedures to close STAFDC AUs and recipients impacted by the elimination of this program are being developed and will be issued shortly.

**STAFDC AUs
and Emergency
Assistance**

STAFDC AUs lawfully admitted for permanent residence or otherwise permanently residing under color of law remain eligible for available Emergency Assistance services:

Housing Assistance Program Services; and

Temporary Emergency Shelter.

Regulations

TAFDC policy regulations at 106 CMR 203.675 (B) have been removed to reflect the elimination of the STAFDC program.

EA policy regulations have also been revised to reflect potential eligibility of noncitizens who are not eligible for TAFDC.

State Letter 1231, which contains these changes, will be shipped as soon as possible.

Questions

If you have any questions, please have your Policy Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline at 617-348-8478.
