



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Transitional Assistance*


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**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-64  
August 4, 2022**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**  
**Re: Cross Programs: Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) For Afghanistan**

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**Overview**

Due to the ongoing economic decline and humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has designated a new Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Afghanistan. The designation will be in effect for 18 months, **May 20, 2022, through November 20, 2023.**

This new designation for TPS enable Afghan nationals (and individuals without nationality who last habitually resided in Afghanistan) and are currently residing in the United States since March 15, 2022, to file initial applications for TPS, so long as they meet eligibility requirements. Individuals who are approved or have pending status for TPS must have documentation from USCIS verifying this temporary status. The case must be run through SAVE per established procedure.

Once verified, individuals are considered Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) for purposes of EAEDC eligibility, and accordingly, may be eligible for EAEDC provided they meet all other EAEDC nonfinancial and financial requirements.

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**Overview  
(Continued)**

Non-Special Immigrant (Non-SI Parolees) Parolees or “Humanitarian Parolees” from Afghanistan who subsequently obtain Temporary Protected Status (TPS) *retain* their eligibility as Humanitarian Parolees for SNAP and TAFDC through March 31, 2023, or the end of their parole term, due to their prior eligibility as a humanitarian parole per INA section 212(d)(5). However, an individual with only TPS and no prior humanitarian parole is not eligible for SNAP or TAFDC benefits. If a client provides TPS documentation only, staff must explore if the individual previously met a qualifying status and request documentation to verify eligibility for SNAP or TAFDC benefits.

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise staff of TPS for Afghanistan.

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**Staff  
Procedures**

For detailed policy and procedures on the EAEDC eligibility of clients with TPS, including how to enter TPS immigration status on the BEACON INS Designation page, please see the EAEDC Temporary Protected Status (TPS) page of the Online Guide found [here](#).

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**Revised Online  
Guide Pages**

**Topic:** TAFDC  
**Book:** Program Nonfinancial Requirements  
**Chapter:** Noncitizen  
**Page:** Eligible Qualified Noncitizens - TAFDC

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Eligibility Requirements  
**Chapter:** Noncitizen  
**Page:** Eligible Qualified Noncitizens – SNAP

**Topic:** EAEDC  
**Book:** General Nonfinancial Requirements  
**Chapter:** Noncitizen  
**Page:** Eligible Noncitizen-EAEDC

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**Questions**

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email them to DTA.Procedural Issues.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.

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