

From the Hotline

- Q. I have a TAFDC AU consisting of a grandmother, who is the grantee, her teen-parent daughter and her daughter's one-year-old son. The teen parent is refusing to attend school and is therefore sanctioned. Can the teen-parent's child remain on TAFDC with the grandmother? Does it make any difference if the grandmother had legal guardianship?
- A. The teen-parent's child cannot remain on TAFDC in the grandmother's AU if the teen parent is refusing to attend school. Once the teen parent refuses to attend school and is therefore sanctioned, you must wait 30 days before you close the teen-parent's child. The grandmother can remain TAFDC-eligible as long as her daughter remains in her home; however, the grandmother must meet the work requirement, unless otherwise exempt. It makes no difference if the grandmother has legal guardianship. See 106 CMR 203.610 (A) (4) (b) (2).
- Q. I sanctioned a recipient for failing to comply with a cash program requirement. How long must the FS income remain on PACES or the Food Stamp Attributed Amount on BEACON 2.0?
- A. The countable sanction amount will be used in the calculation of food stamp benefits for each month that the cash case remains in a sanction status. The countable sanctioned amount must remain on file until the sanction has been cured, the disqualification penalty removed, the reason for the sanction no longer exists or the sanction cannot be cured. See 106 CMR 363.220 (C) (5) and Field Operations Memo 96-32, *BEACON User's Guide* XIV-D 3.
- Q. Does being in DSS custody make a teen parent ineligible for TAFDC and placement in a TLP?
- A. No. Provided no foster care payments are being made for the teen parent, being in DSS custody does not make a teen parent ineligible for TAFDC and placement in a TLP. If the teen parent meets all TAFDC eligibility requirements, she is eligible for a cash grant and placement in a TLP.
- Q. I have a combination food stamp AU (FS/SSFSP) due to noncitizen status. All AU members are receiving TAFDC. For shelter proration purposes, is TAFDC considered income?
- A. The shelter cost must be prorated if the shelter cost is paid by or

billed to the SSFSP member and the SSFSP member has income. **Either earned or unearned income, including a cash assistance grant, is considered income to the SSFSP member.**

