

FYI

Teen Parents, Dependent Children and the MCAS

New Department of Education (DOE) standards require that high school students in Massachusetts pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Examination to graduate and receive a high school diploma. The Department has made the following decisions regarding the MCAS and how it relates to our clients.

Teen Parents:

- A teen parent who has received a Certificate of Completion or can verify through a written statement from the high school that she has successfully completed her high school course work is considered to have received a diploma for purposes of teen parent eligibility.
- A teen parent who has received a Certificate of Completion or can verify through a written statement from the high school that she has successfully completed her high school course work, and who is pursuing an MCAS remedial program will maintain her work-program and time-limit exemptions until she takes the MCAS retest or for six months, whichever is sooner. The six-month period starts the month following the successful completion of high school course work.

Dependent children:

- A dependent child age 18 who has received a Certificate of Completion or can otherwise demonstrate that he or she has successfully completed the high school course work, and who is pursuing an MCAS remedial program will continue to be eligible for TAFDC until turning 19, taking the MCAS retest or for six months, whichever is sooner. The six-month period starts the month following the successful completion of high school course work.

For more information on dependent children who have turned 18, refer to 106 CMR 203.575. Teen parent school attendance requirements are found at 106 CMR 203.610.

Additional information on the MCAS may be found by visiting the DOE website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pathways>.

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that are eligible per USDA regulations. EBT customers may return unused scrip to the market manager who will then credit the amount to their EBT account or they may choose to use the scrip on another shopping day through October 25, 2003.

If this pilot is successful, the Clasky Common Market will operate using the same EBT system next year. DTA hopes this project will be expanded to farmers' markets across the state in future years.

