

FYI

Changes to the Department's Website Home Page

The following enhancements have been added to the Department's Internet home page. This page is accessed from the Mass.Gov home page.

- Requests are often received from individuals outside the Department for copies of the text of draft regulations associated with a legal notice. A link has been added connecting the policy citation stated in the legal notice summary to the text of the draft regulations, enabling users to view the text of the draft regulations online.
- Information about access to the Food Stamp Application online and a link to both the English and Spanish versions of the application have been added to the following sections:
 - Frequently Asked Questions: How Do I Apply for Food Stamp Benefits?
 - Programs: Food Stamp Benefits
 - Other Services: Food Stamp Benefits

FYI

TAFDC Nonpresumptive Disability Exemptions

AU Managers are reminded that when recipients request a second or subsequent disability exemption they remain a nonexempt TAFDC AP until DES determines if they are disabled or not.

If DES determines that the nonexempt recipient is disabled, the Disability Liaison must:

- update the Disability window with the Approval Information, Disposition Date, Expiration Date and Disposition Reason.

Then the AU Manager must:

- update the Disability window with the Determination Source;
- update the Work Requirements window by going to the TAFDC tab and changing the Work Program Required radio button to "No," changing the Required Status Reason to the appropriate reason, updating the Start Date with either the disability onset date (determined by DES) or the date the recipient requested the disability exemption, whichever is later; and,
- on the AU Exemption tab, change the AU Status from Nonexempt to Exempt.

The system will automatically adjust the 24-month clock, recalculate the grant and issue a retroactive payment. If the retroactive payment exceeds the amount of six pay periods or \$1500, a message will appear on the 1070 Errors Report on View Direct, informing the AU Manager to issue the retroactive payment.

In a two-parent AU, the AU Manager must manually:

- adjust the 24-month clock of the disabled recipient if he or she is the other parent in the two-parent AU; and
- calculate and issue a retroactive payment if the two-parent AU goes from a nonexempt to an exempt status. If the two-parent AU remains nonexempt, no retroactive payment is owed.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS