



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance
600 Washington Street • Boston, MA 02111


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Field Operations Memo 2004-29
July 21, 2004

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff
From:  Cescia Derderian, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations
Re: TAFDC: Work Program BEACON Functionality Changes

Overview

The current release of BEACON (2.1.10) has two changes that impact the Work Program. This Field Operations Memo highlights those changes.

A User's Guide, Transitional Assistance Programs and BEACON will be updated to reflect those changes.

**New Work
Program
Reasons on
BEACON**

The following nonexempt reasons are being added to the AU Exemption Tab of the Work Requirement window:

- Only FamCap Child > 3 months;
- FEP, Only FamCap Child > 3 months;
- 2 Prt, Only FamCap Child > 3 mos; and
- FEP 2 Prt, Only FamCap Child > 3 mos.

The following nonexempt reasons are being added to the TAFDC Tab of the Work Requirements window:

- Only FamCap Child > 3 months; and
- 2 Parent, Only FamCap Child > 3 mos.

The only time these reasons are to be used is if the Family Cap child is the only dependent child making the grantee eligible for TAFDC. These reasons are for nonexempt, work program grantees only.

AU Managers should update the nonexempt reasons for these AUs during scheduled reevaluations.

**Community
Service Referrals**

Field Operations Memo 2004-24 told TAO Staff that unless a community service referral is generated after the mandated EDP has been created the automatic sanction process would be suspended.

The current release of BEACON makes the following enhancement to that process:

Community Service referrals generated *before* the 60-day work search period will no longer be considered an appropriate referral that allows the automatic work program sanction process to start.

Only those community service referrals generated *after* the EDP mandating community service has been generated on day 61 will be considered an appropriate referral that allows the automatic work program sanction process to start.

Questions

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