



MITT ROMNEY
Governor

KERRY HEALEY
Lieutenant Governor


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

TIMOTHY MURPHY
Secretary

JOHN A. WAGNER
Commissioner

Field Operations Memo 2005-36
August 16, 2005

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff

From:  Cescia Derderian, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re: TAFDC - Eliminating Deprivation Factor,
EAEDC - Eliminating Parental Family

Background

State Letter 1299 transmits the following changes:

- (1) Eliminates the TAFDC Deprivation factor as an eligibility requirement. As a result of other policy changes over the years (including the elimination of the work history requirement), this change clarifies that nonfinancial eligibility does not rely on the dependent child(ren) being deprived of parental support; and
- (2) Eliminates the categorical requirement of EAEDC Parental Family regulation. This elimination clarifies that EAEDC parental families no longer qualify for EAEDC based on the lack of a work history in TAFDC because the TAFDC regulation no longer exists. An EAEDC parental family is eligible for TAFDC, if it meets other TAFDC eligibility requirements.

Affected forms are being updated to reflect these changes.

Purpose of Memo

This Field Operations memo informs TAO Staff about:

- changes to BEACON; and
- the continued importance of completing the “Absence” and “Disability” windows on BEACON.

**Changes to
BEACON**

Effective with Increment 2.1.16, the “Deprivation” fields on the “AU” and the “AU Member” tabs of the AU Composition Results window will be eliminated.

The Closing Reason “TAFDC AU Has No Deprivation Factor” of the “Program Rules” Reason Category will be removed.

BEACON Notices are being updated to reflect these changes.

**Completing the
Absence and
Disability
Windows**

The “Absence” and “Disability” questions on the Nonfinancial Q&A Navigator as well as the “Absence” and “Disability” windows on the “Assessed Person Nonfinancial Statement” workflow **must continue** to be completed, as appropriate. The questions on the Nonfinancial Q&A Navigator must be completed to get through this section of the interview.

It is important that the AU Manager completes:

- the “Absence” window fully and enters either “Natural Father,” “Natural Mother,” “Adoptive Father” or “Adoptive Mother” in the “Relationship” drop-down box on the “Relationship” window as appropriate, to ensure that DOR receives accurate information about the absent parent and establishes child support orders.
 - the appropriate fields of the “Disability” window to ensure that exemptions from the Work Program and time-limited benefits are verified.
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**EAEDC AU
Instructions**

AU Managers **must continue** to review the composition of each family at application to determine how the AU is affected by the policy change. Any applicant applying as a family who is related to his or her dependent as stated in 106 CMR 203.585, **must** apply for TAFDC. Any applicant applying as a family who is **not** related to his or her dependent as stated in 106 CMR 203.585 may apply for EAEDC as a caretaker family. See 106 CMR 320.400 for eligibility requirements.

IMPORTANT: A Special Project for reviewing eligibility of ongoing EAEDC AUs affected by this policy change will be issued in a separate Field Operations Memo in the near future.

Questions

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