



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
*Executive Office of Health and Human Services*  
**Department of Transitional Assistance**  
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**Field Operations Memo 2007-38**  
**July 23, 2007**

**To:** Transitional Assistance Office Staff  
**From:**  John Augeri, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations  
**Re:** Food Stamp Program: Federal Minimum Wage Increase

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**Overview**

On May 25, 2007, President Bush signed legislation that increased the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 over the next two years. Effective on July 24, 2007, the federal minimum wage will increase to **\$5.85**. In the summer of 2008 the minimum wage will increase to \$6.55 and in the summer of 2009 the minimum wage will increase to \$7.25.

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this memo is to inform AU Managers of the increase and its effect on food stamp work requirements. TAFDC and EAEDC policy are not affected by this change.

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**Meeting Work Requirement**

In accordance with 106 CMR 362.310 (B) (10), *Exemption from FS/ET Requirement*, and 106 CMR 362.320 (B) (10), *Exemption from the FS Work Program Requirement*, persons employed or self-employed may be exempt if working a minimum of 30 hours weekly or receiving weekly earnings equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours. As of July 24, 2007, in order to meet the FS/ET or FS work requirement exemption, the average weekly gross income of the employed person(s) must be equal to or greater than \$175.50 weekly (\$5.85 x 30) or \$760.44 monthly (\$175.50 x 4.333). The AU Manager must review this requirement at intake and recertification.

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**Questions**

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

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