

From the Hotline

In response to TAO requests, a “From the Hotline” index of the questions and answers written in *Transitions* during 2004 has been compiled. The index is intended to provide quicker access to policy background information. *Please remember that the indexed information explains policy as of the month/year in which the question and answer were issued.*

EA

Topic	2004 Month	Related Policies 106 CMR:
Shelter Benefit	March	309.040

EAEDC

Topic	2004 Month	Related Policies 106 CMR:
EIC	June	321.120(I)
Tax Refund	June	321.120(I)

Food Stamps

Topic	2004/ Month	Related Policies 106 CMR:
Caretaker Exemption	September	362.310(B)
Cash Contributions	September	363.230(A)
EIC	June	363.140(G)
Excluded Earnings	July	363.230
Homelessness/USR	June	366.110
LIHEAA/Fuel	December	364.400(G)
Lump Sum	January, June	363.230(E)
SUA(Heat/Cool)	December	364.400(G)
Tax Refund	June	363.130(E), 363.230(I)
Teen (Household Concept)	August	361.200
USR (Earnings)	September	366.110
USR (Exception)	June	366.110(C)
USR (Unearned Income)	April	366.110
Vendor Payment	May	363.230(B)

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FYI

H&R Block Food Stamp Outreach Program

During the 2005 tax season (January 1 – April 15), H&R Block tax preparation offices in Massachusetts are providing their clients with a DTA-approved food stamp application form, contact information, and brief instructions to help them begin the application process. Massachusetts joins 11 other states in the outreach initiative at H&R Block offices. Tax professionals are able to tell their clients they may be eligible for food stamps, based on the income and household information provided in the tax interview. Their clients will be responsible for completing the applications and submitting them to the appropriate local DTA office. The source code “H&R Block” will be pre-printed on the paper food stamp application in the top right-hand corner of the form. The Source dropdown list on the Application window of BEACON is being updated to include H&R Block. AU Managers must use the dropdown list to identify the source of the application when entering the information on BEACON.



TAFDC

Topic	2004 Month	Related Policies 106 CMR:
Asset Transfer	January	204.135
AU Composition	August, October	204.305
Child Care	February	207.210(A)
Dependent Child (Under Age 18/Income)	July	203.570, 204.260
Dependent Child (Age 18/MCAS)	July	203.575
Dependent Earnings	July	204.260
EIC	June	204.120(I)
GED Vouchers	October	207.140(C)
Good Cause	November	701.380
Income In-kind	May	204.510
Learnfare	August	203.900
Lump Sum Income	January	204.240
Noncountable Income (Cash Contributions)	May	204.250(AA)
Relationship	April	203.585
Step parent Income	October	204.210(D)
Tax Refund	June	204.210(I)
Teen Parent	August, October	203.600, 203.610, 204.305
Transfer of Assets	January	204.135
Work Program	November	203.400, 207.205

ESP – Changes to Young Parents Program Enrollment - TAFDC

TAFDC

State Letter 1289

This State Letter transmits the following change:

For purposes of the Young Parents Program, the participant must be age 14-through 21-years-old. Once a YPP participant reaches age 22, he or she may no longer participate in YPP. Enrollment is limited to age 14 through 20 years of age.

2005 Social Security/SSI COLA for TAFDC, EAEDC and FS

ALL

Field Operations Memo 2004-45

This Field Operations Memo identified:

- general BEACON activities for processing the 2005 Social Security/SSICOLA; and
- AU Manager and Supervisor activities required to prepare for the 2005 Social Security/SSICOLA.

EA Program: Accessing Escrowed Funds

EA

State Letter 1290

The EA regulation concerning when the Assistance Unit may access escrowed funds has been revised to allow access when the escrowed funds are needed by the recipient to secure permanent housing, such as for first and/or last month's rent or security deposit.

