



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance*

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Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2017-87
September 29, 2017**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management
 Paul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re:  Cross Programs: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and State Assigned Student Identifiers (SASID)

Overview

DTA and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) collaborate to identify children in households who receive SNAP and/or TAFDC assistance and are attending public schools. This collaboration results in direct certification by enrolling qualifying children in school meal programs.

The direct certification process removes the need for a completed school meal application or verification of eligibility for the school meals program.

DESE assigns a unique identifier to each student. This identifier is called a State Assigned Student Identifier (SASID). This number is captured in BEACON on the Education page to improve the accuracy of direct certification data exchange.

Purpose

This Transmittal advises staff of the new Online Guide book and pages detailing the collaboration between DTA and DESE.

Additionally, this Transmittal advises staff of the new SASID field in BEACON.

**New Online
Guide
Chapter/Pages**

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: DESE
Page: DESE Overview

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: DESE
Page: Direct Certification

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: DESE
Page: SASID

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email the DTA Mailbox.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.
