



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

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Acting Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-94  
November 17, 2022**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**  
**Re: SNAP: Medical Deduction Outreach**

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**Overview**

As the Department prepares for the eventual expiration of the Public Health Emergency and associated waivers, SNAP households will no longer receive the monthly SNAP Emergency Allotment supplement. This will significantly decrease SNAP benefits for a lot of elderly and/or disabled households. Additionally, because the SNAP interview waivers have reduced contact between clients and staff, it is likely that a lot of elderly and/or disabled clients have unreported medical expenses.

**To offset these potential decreases and maximize benefits for this vulnerable population, the Department will perform outreach to elderly and/or disabled SNAP clients who are not currently receiving the medical deduction.**

This initiative will utilize the [Standard Medical Deduction](#) Waiver (OLGT [2022-49](#)), which allows staff to accept a telephonic self-declaration as verification of medical expenses that are less than or equal to \$190 per month.

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise staff of the outreach associated with the SMD Waiver, and the corresponding updates to the Online Guide.

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**New Online  
Guide Pages**

**Topic:** COVID-19  
**Page:** Medical Deduction Outreach

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**Questions**

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 them to DTA.Procedural Issues.

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

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