

FYI - Disability Status and the Work Requirements Window Reminder	10
FYI - Food Stamp Noncitizen Eligibility Based on 40 Quarters	11
FYI - Window Immigrants	11

Continued from Page 2

food stamp benefits for each closing reason.

- Q.** I have a TAFDC AU with an ineligible noncitizen parent and one child who was recently approved for SSI benefits. Which TAFDC closing reason should I use to ensure that this AU receives TBA? Should I close the TAFDC AU for “dependent child(ren) no longer in AU,” or should I close the AU for “eligibility for SSI?”
- A.** In this situation, the correct closing reason is “eligibility for SSI.” This reason will allow the food stamps to TBA and will also generate a notice that accurately describes the reason for closing. “Dependent child(ren) no longer in AU” should be used only when the child(ren) is no longer in the home. The notice specifically states the dependent is no longer in the home, and the food stamps will, correctly, not TBA.

Quality Corner

This month we will discuss two NPA earnings AUs. Both AUs have the same error prevention strategy.

Scenario 1: Recipient Stopped and Started Working

A grandmother was an ineligible grantee receiving TAFDC for two grandchildren. The food stamp AU included all three family members plus the children’s grandfather. In July, the TAFDC AU was redetermined, and at that time both grandparents were working. The AU was certified as a regular change reporting AU for one year. In October, the grandmother notified the AU Manager that the grandfather was unemployed due to illness and she was no longer working per diem as a medical assistant due to lack of hours. The AU Manager zeroed out all earned income for the AU so the FS calculation was based solely on the grandchildren’s TAFDC income.

Quality Control discovered that the grandmother had started to work shortly after she reported that she was not working, but she did not report this change to the AU Manager. She received her first pay stub at the end of October. Quality Control’s review for December determined that the grandmother had a full month of earnings, which caused an overissuance.

Scenario 2: Recipient Stopped Collecting Unemployment Compensation (UC)

The second AU is very similar to the first. The household included a grandmother who was an ineligible grantee receiving TAFDC for her grandchild. The NPA FS AU included both the grandmother and the grandchild. At the recertification in July, the grandmother reported that she was no longer receiving Unemployment Compensation (UC), and that she was not working. This AU was certified as a regular change reporting AU for one year. The grandmother started working again in August but did not report the change until verification was requested by the AU Manager based on an earnings match in December. The grandmother also failed to report the receipt of RSDI for her granddaughter.

Quality Control’s review for December found the AU to be in error due to the unreported income.



What's an AU Manager to Do?

Both AUs should have been certified as Universal Semiannual Reporting (USR) AUs. In the first scenario, income was reported at the last certification, while in the second scenario, the grantee reported no income but had a strong history of earned income. Both FS AUs met the criteria for USR as outlined in 106 CMR 366.110 (C) and should have been certified as USR AUs at recertification.

If the AUs had been certified as USR AUs, income changes under the maximum gross income limit for the AU size and type would not have to be reported for six months. In both AUs, the unreported income was below the maximum income limit for the AU, so the Quality Control error would have been avoided. Remember, while BEACON may default to a particular certification type, the AU Manager must ultimately determine which certification type is appropriate based on AU characteristics. For more information on Universal Semiannual Reporting, see *A User's Guide: Transitional Assistance Programs and BEACON*, Chapter IV-C.

From the Forms File

New Forms

02-845-0506-05

ATJ-COA (5/2006)

Access to Jobs Car Ownership Application

02-840-0506-05

02-841-0606-05(S)

TAA-COPR (5/2006)

TransAction Associates Responsibilities under the Car Ownership Program

These two forms are to be used when certain TAFDC recipients are referred to the Car Ownership Program available through the TransAction Associates. Refer to Field Operations Memo 2006-28 for more information.

Revised Forms

02-177-0506-05

02-178-0506-05 (S)

FHRN (Rev. 5/2006)

Notice of Fair Hearing Request

02-147-0506-05 (S)

02-148-0506-05

DOH-10 (Rev. 5/2006)

Request for a Fair Hearing

02-569-0606-05

02-561-0606-05 (S)

DVW (Rev. 6/2006)

Notice of Approval or Denial of Domestic Violence Waiver from Certain Program Requirements

The DVW was revised to now require both name(s) and date(s) of birth for Family Cap rule children and the Domestic Violence Specialist's signature. Please destroy old versions of the form and use the revised version.

Revised Brochure

18-115-0506-05

18-116-0506-05(S)

Your Right to Interpreter Services

The Division of Hearings (DOH) Post Office box number has changed. The new Post Office box number is 120167. The above forms and those that have DOH's post office box number have been updated and shipped to local TAOs. Please destroy old versions and use the updated versions.

New Brochure

02-852-0406-05

02-853-0406-05 (S)

DTA-BPP (4/2006)

DTA Benefits Planning Program

The DTA Benefits Planning

