

- A. Receipt of EA in another state within the past 12 months does not affect her eligibility for EA in Massachusetts.
- Q. Are the months counted in determining the 24 months of time-limited eligibility calendar months or cyclical months?
- A. They are always **calendar** months. For example, Susan Smith, whose social security number ends in 3, is being changed from exempt to nonexempt. The change will take place on the day she receives her first July benefit, which is July 5. The first month which will count toward her 24 months of time-limited benefits is August because it is the first full calendar month.

See *PRISM User's Guide*, Chapter 5



## FYI

### EBT Purged Records

When a TAFDC, EAEDC or FS case has been **closed for a year or more**, there is a behind-the-scenes sweep process which purges the EBT records. Once the EBT records are purged, a "P" will be posted to the EBT field. The "P" means that there are **no** EBT records for the former recipient. Therefore, if the former recipient reapplies: (1) he or she must be treated as a new EBT case, (2) a new EBT card must be issued, and (3) a PIN must be selected.

The behind-the-scenes sweep process, which will occur on or about the 25th of each month, will ensure that the EBT records are not purged without creating a proper audit trail.

**No action is required by TAO staff to purge EBT records.**

For additional information, see:

- *Systems User's Guide*, Volume 1: *PACES User's Guide*, page III-20, and
- *Electronic Benefit Transfer*, page III-2.

## FYI

### BEACON Online

The BEACON Online segment of Policy Online is being changed to make needed information easier to access. Until now, this segment has contained the *BEACON Index* (which listed topics linked to the Bulletin(s) in which the topic was discussed), *BEACON Bulletins* (online copies of all Bulletins) and the *BEACON Online Help* (which contained by topic all the information contained in the Bulletins). *BEACON Online Help* will continue to be available and will be updated monthly with any new information which has been issued through a *BEACON Bulletin*. Additionally, information no longer current will be removed from *BEACON Online Help*.

If you have ideas of other ways that Policy Online could be made more useful for you, we welcome your input. Send your ideas and suggestions by ccMail. Our address is *Unit, Policy*.