Removal of EAEDC Student Category and Introduction of New EBT Procedures

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A User's Guide: Transitional Assistance Programs and BEACON Update 045

This update transmits the following changes:

- Eliminates EAEDC student category.
- Lifts the requirement to complete an Image-1 form for any recipient with a previous image on file. Recipients with a previous image on file may go directly to the IIS operator for a replacement card or PIN.
- Introduces the new EBT Card Fee Collection Form (EBT-9). This form is used to authorize the collection of the EBT card fee from the recipient's next EBT benefit issuance.
- Eliminates action on 30-day and 60-day aged EBT cash and food stamp benefits. AU Managers will only act on aged 90-day benefits.
- Food stamp EBT benefits will no longer be inactivated at day 90; these benefits will be permanently purged at day 270.
- Food stamp benefits will no longer be converted to cash when an Assistance Unit moves out of the Commonwealth since Massachusetts' EBT card can be used in all EBT states.

EA Recoupment and Pet Restriction in Hotels

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EA User's Guide Update 014

An EA AU who appeals the shelter termination action, receives shelter pending the appeal hearing and subsequently loses the appeal will be subject to recoupment of the cost of shelter at the Department rate of \$100 per night. This information has been added to the NFL-9 and NFL-ST. AU Managers must advise the EA AU of the recoupment procedures should an appeal be filed and denied.

A rule has been added to the HM-NT form regarding pets. No pets may be in the room at any time except when needed as an accommodation for a disability, such as but not limited to, a seeing-eye dog or another animal trained to assist the person with his or her disability.

FYI BEACON Help

The following is a list of Help windows that have been added or revised.

Added:

Add, Change or Update Business Expenses Add, Change or Update Garnishment Assign an AU Modify Existing Domestic Violence Information Process a Benefit Issuance Process a Closed Extension Request Process a Denied Extension Request Process a Reevaluation Process an Approved Extension Request Process Application/Reevaluation Print Information **Process Dependent Care** Expenses **Process Medical Expenses** Process Monthly Reporting Information **Process New Domestic Violence** Information **Process Prior Assistance** Information Process Program Change Information Process Residential Facility Information Process Standard Utility Allowance Information **Process Support Expenses** Information