



Transitions

December 2019

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cross Programs: Veterans and Active Duty Military Personnel Update (86)	2
Cross Programs – The 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Massachusetts Earned Income Credit (EIC), Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Child Care Assistance Mailing (90)	2
Cross Programs: Change to Massachusetts Minimum Wage (97)	2
SNAP: Change in Student Eligibility Criteria (91)	3
SNAP: Updates to the What is SNAP page in the Online Guide (93)	3
SNAP: Fleeing Felon Disqualification Update (96)	3
TAFDC: Clarification of DOR/CSE Child Support Procedures (43)	3
From the Forms File	4
FYI	5
Client Success Story	6



Online Guide Transmittals

Cross Programs:

Veterans and Active Duty Military Personnel Update

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-86

The State Veterans Benefits page has been updated to provide guidance regarding the identification and processing of the most common types of State veterans' benefits for SNAP, TAFDC, and EAEDC.

A new Federal Veterans Benefits page has been added to the Online Guide providing guidance regarding the identification and processing of the most common types of federal veterans' benefits for SNAP, TAFDC, and EAEDC.

The 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Massachusetts Earned Income Credit (EIC), Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Child Care Assistance Mailing

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-90

The annual mailing of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Massachusetts Earned Income Credit (EIC), Child Tax Credit (CTC) as well as child care assistance will begin January 6, 2020.

Change to Massachusetts Minimum Wage

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-97

Effective January 1, 2020, the Massachusetts minimum wage will increase from \$12.00 per hour to \$12.75 per hour.



Online Guide Transmittals

SNAP:

Change in Student Eligibility Criteria

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-91

Students can no longer claim SNAP eligibility through a program under the Job Training Partnership Act because this law has been repealed. Students can still be eligible through a different program under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Updates to the What is SNAP page in the Online Guide

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-93

The What is SNAP page in the Online Guide has been updated with corrections to the income and asset limits. The *How to Get SNAP Benefits* brochure was also updated.

Fleeing Felon Disqualification Update

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-96

Previous OLG Guidance advised that this issue was pending clarification from Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). This update provides that clarification.

TAFDC:

Clarification of DOR/CSE Procedures

Online Guide Transmittal 2019-43

Only out-of-state records, Cooperation with DOR Notice (DOR-CN) and Mother's Affidavits must be mailed to the DOR/CSE Liaison contact. When a client reports the possibility of one or more individuals as the absent parent, only add one absent parent record at a time for that dependent child. When making changes to the absent parent window, the interview wrap-up needs to be completed to ensure that DOR/CSE receives the updates timely.

From the Forms File

Revised Brochures

How to Get SNAP Benefits

SNAP-BB (Rev. 12/2019)

09-075-1219-05

09-538-1219-05 (Arabic)

09-536-1219-05 (Chinese)

09-533-1219-05 (Haitian Creole)

09-539-1219-05 (Khmer)

09-532-1219-05 (Portuguese)

09-535-1219-05 (Russian)

09-076-1219-05 (Spanish)

09-534-1219-05 (Vietnamese)

The *How to Get SNAP Benefits* (SNAP-BB) brochure has been updated to reflect a change in SNAP income and asset limits information. See OLG 2019-93 for more information. Document Production will send out an initial shipment of this brochure to the TAOs. Please discard old versions of the *How to Get SNAP Benefits* (SNAP-BB) and use the revised version.

File Your 2019 Taxes. Get Cash Back. It's That Easy.

EITC-B (Rev. 12/2019)

25-650-1219-05

25-651-1219-05 (Spanish)

The *File Your 2019 Taxes. Get Cash Back. It's That Easy* (EITC-B) brochure has been revised for the 2019 Tax Year. Please discard old versions of the *File Your 2019 Taxes. Get Cash Back. It's That Easy* (EITC-B) and use the revised version. Document Production will send out an initial shipment of this brochure to the TAOs.

Revised Form

Child Care Fact Sheet

CCFS (Rev. 12/2019)

25-642-1219-05

25-643-1219-05 (Spanish)

The *Child Care Fact Sheet* has been updated. Please discard old versions of the *Child Care Fact Sheet* and use the revised version. Document Production will send out an initial shipment of the CCFS to the TAO's.

Revised Poster

And Justice for All Poster

USDA Poster (Rev. 7/2019)

The *And Justice for All Poster* has been revised by the food and Nutrition Services (FNS) as of July 2019. Document Production sent out an initial shipment of the *And Justice for All Poster* to the TAO's.

FYI

There are no *FYIs* for the month of December 2019.

Client Success Story

December 2019



Niecha Smith-Walker, a 19 year old single mother of two children, was referred to the Young Parent Program at Training Resources of America, by the Self Sufficiency Specialist from the Brockton Transitional Assistance Office. Niecha was not happy with the direction her life had taken. She knew that to be successful and achieve her goals, she needed to first complete her Hi-set. “I didn’t think that I would complete the program. However, with the help of [the TRA staff] I continued my journey”. Three months later, she passed all the HiSET exams and enrolled in a medical assistance training program. “I owe my success to Training Resources of America”.

If you have a Client Success Story that you would like to share, please email jessica.cunha@state.ma.us

TAO Meeting Notes