




**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
*Executive Office of Health and Human Services*  
**Department of Transitional Assistance**  
 600 Washington Street • Boston, MA 02111

JANE SWIFT  
 Governor

ROBERT P. GITTENS  
 Secretary

JOHN A. WAGNER  
 Commissioner

Field Operations Memo 2002-9 B  
 May 6, 2002

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff  
 From:  Cescia Derderian, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations  
 Re: Suspension of SSFSP Benefits

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**Background** The Department must suspend benefits to SSFSP recipients beginning May 10, 2002. To implement this change a “funding reduction” percentage will be put in place in BEACON effective May 6, 2002. For SSFSP benefits, the “funding reduction” percentage used will be zero.

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**Recipient Impact** This means recipients whose SSN ends in “6” through “9” will be impacted first by the suspension in May. Recipients whose SSN ends in “0” through “5” will be impacted in June.

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**SSFSP-only and “Combination” (SSFSP/FSP) AU Applications** Field Operations Memo 2002-9 A instructed TAO Staff not to authorize any food stamp application which contained an SSFSP member.  
**At this time AU Managers should process these applications.**  
 If the AU is denied, BEACON will generate the appropriate denial reason.  
 If the AU is approved, BEACON will

- calculate and generate federal food stamp benefits owed, if eligible, and approve the SSFSP benefits at zero; and
- generate an approval notice regarding the federal food stamp benefit amount, if eligible, and the zero SSFSP benefit amount.

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**SSFSP-only  
and  
"Combination"  
(SSFSP/FSP)  
AU  
Applications  
(continued)**

**The AU Manager must issue a supplemental payment for the SSFSP benefits owed from the application date to May 9, 2002.**

AU Managers must calculate the supplemental payment for benefits owed as follows:

- On the Financial Tab of the Results Tab on the Eligibility Explorer window, click on the Benefit caret and use the State Funding Reduction figure as the difference between the higher SSFSP amount and the new zero amount;
  - Multiply that amount by 12 (months) to get a yearly total;
  - Divide that amount by 365 (days) to get a daily total;
  - Multiply that amount by the number of days from the date of application to **May 9, 2002**; and
  - Enter this amount on the Related Benefits window and authorize this on the Interview Wrap-up window.
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**Further  
Information**

We will give you further information as it becomes available.

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**Questions**

If you have any questions, please have your Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline at 617-348-8478.

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