

If the nonrecurring medical expense is reported during the certification period, the AU Manager may average the expenses over the remainder of the certification period or may allow the expense as a one-time deduction, based on the client's preference. For more details on nonrecurring medical expenses, see 106 CMR 364.440(C) and (D).

Remember: Whenever a nonrecurring medical expense is allowed as a one-time deduction, the AU Manager must zero out the medical expense after that particular month's FS benefits have been issued.

FYI

Project SAFE Update

New Initiatives Memo: *Pre-Employment Services for Homeless TAFDC Families Initiative*, issued September 5, 2006, informed TAO staff about the Safe Assistance to Further Economic Empowerment (Project SAFE) Program implemented in fiscal year 2006. In fiscal year 2007, Project SAFE was offered to residents in four emergency shelters.

To date in FY 2007, Project SAFE has been implemented at *The Family House* in Dorchester, *Housing Families, Inc.* in Malden

and the *Crittenton Hastings House* in Brighton. The final shelter scheduled this year for Project SAFE is *Crossroads* in East Boston. This implementation is scheduled to begin in early June. For fiscal year 2008, Project SAFE will be implemented in five additional shelters.

FYI

TAFDC and FS Eligibility for Battered Noncitizens

Field Operations Memo 2005-22, *TAFDC and FS Program Eligibility for Battered Noncitizens*, clarifies the process for determining if a noncitizen is eligible for TAFDC and food stamps as a battered noncitizen. Persons who may ordinarily be ineligible for benefits could be eligible because of their domestic violence history.

TAFDC and FS applicants do not have to self-petition under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) to qualify for TAFDC or food stamps as a battered noncitizen. There are a number of ways an individual can obtain their battered noncitizen status. Applying under VAWA is one way for an individual to obtain battered noncitizen status. The applicant may also have the required immigration status under the regulations if they have a pending or approved I-130 petition to immigrate as a spouse or child of a U.S. citizen or as a spouse or child of a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR).

The code found on the applicant's permanent resident card shows whether the noncitizen immigrated through a family member or by some other means. Some common codes which verify that the noncitizen immigrated through a spouse or parent are IR1, IR2, IR6, IR7, F21, F22, F24, F26, F27, F29. Please note that these codes are only examples. There are additional codes which may indicate that the individual meets the criteria to be eligible for TAFDC or FS as a battered noncitizen.

If you have a question about a code or are unsure about whether the applicant has the correct immigration status to qualify as a battered noncitizen, please refer to Field Operations Memo 2005-22, the Noncitizen Online Guide or contact your TAO Noncitizen Liaison.