



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Northeast Region

10 Causeway St.
Room 501
Boston, MA 02222

OCT 1 2004

Food Stamp Program Regional Letter 04-43

**SUBJECT: Vehicle and Maximum Excess Shelter Expense
Deduction Provisions of Public Law 106-387**

Attached is the final rule allowing the State agencies the option to use their Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TNAF) Program vehicle allowance rather than the vehicle rules ordinarily used by the Food Stamp Program where doing so will result in a lower attribution of resources to the food stamp household. Most State agencies have already utilized this option.

It also increases the maximum amount of the Food Stamp Program excess shelter expense deduction and indexes it each fiscal year to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the 12 months period ending the previous November 30th.

If you have any questions please call Janice Marshall at (617) 565-5679

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ann Ferris".

Mary Ann Ferris, Chief
State Program Improvement
Food Stamp Program
Northeast Region