



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KATHLEEN E. WALSH
SECRETARY

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MARY SHEEHAN
ACTING COMMISSIONER

Online Guide Transmittal 2023-33
April 13, 2023

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management

Re: **SNAP: Reinstating Interim Reports and Implementing New Interim Report Waiver (Phase One)**

Overview

In 2020, due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department was approved to waive the Interim Report (IR) requirement for all SNAP-only households on Simplified Reporting. This waiver is set to expire as the Public Health Emergency is ending and COVID-related flexibilities sunset.

With the return of IRs, it is anticipated that we will not only see an increase in the volume of processing work but also an increase in households churning off SNAP, causing a disruption to their benefits. The Department remains committed to ensuring equitable access to benefits and recognizes that vulnerable populations are disproportionately impacted by churn. To alleviate churn and ease the administrative burden of processing IRs, DTA secured a waiver from FNS authorizing the Department to waive the IR for certain SIMP-12 households.

Purpose

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise staff about:

- the resumption of IRs,
 - the populations subject to the new IR waiver, and
 - corresponding updates to the Online Guide.
-

**Key
Components
of the New
IR Waiver**

The following households are the only ones subject to the IR requirement :

1. Simplified Reporting (SIMP-12) households that:

- have no income on record and are not homeless; or
- have income within \$200 of the gross monthly limit for their household size

2. Simplified Reporting (Former EDSAP) households.

All other Simplified Reporting households will continue to be waived from the IR requirement. This includes households that are receiving SNAP in combination with TAFDC or EAEDC.

For households subject to an IR, BEACON will start sending IRs on April 15, 2023. These IRs will be effective for June 2023.

This Transmittal focuses on Phase One of the waiver, which is to send the current IR form to households who are subject to the IR requirement based on the new waiver criteria. Phase Two is forthcoming and will be detailed in a future Transmittal.

**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

Topic: COVID-19
Page: COVID-19 Streamlined SNAP Recertification
Process and Interview Waiver

Topic: SNAP
Book: Certification Types
Chapter: Simplified Reporting
Page: Simplified Reporting – Interim Report

Topic: SNAP
Book: Certification Types
Chapter: Simplified Reporting
Page: Simplified Reporting – Examples

Topic: SNAP
Book: Certification Types
Chapter: Simplified Reporting
Page: Simplified Reporting During Case Maintenance

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: Verifications
Chapter: Questionable & Contradictory Info
Page: Examples of Questionable & Contradictory
Information

Questions

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email them to [DTA.Procedural Issues](#).

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.
