



**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

**JEFF MCCUE**  
COMMISSIONER

**Online Guide Transmittal 2024-38  
July 18, 2024**

**To:** Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

**From:**  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Local Implementation and Special Populations

**Re:** TAFDC: Living Arrangement Requirements for Parents Under The Age Of 20

---

**Overview**

On February 1, 2024, the Department issued Online Guide Transmittal 2024-7: Cross Program: Language Updates for TAFDC parents who have additional requirements due to their age. These requirements include both school and special living arrangement requirements. Some additional questions regarding the rules for parents under 20 to be allowed to live independently have come up.

---

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise staff of changes made to the Online Guide to clarify living arrangement requirements for parents under the age of 20.

---

**Key Clarifications**

Two key areas where questions have come up have been addressed in the Online Guide updates:

- Parents age 18 and 19 do not need to be assessed by DCF in order to live independently and;
- DCF Independent Living Recommendation requirements only apply to parents under the age of 18.

---

**Revised Online Guide Pages**

<b>Topic:</b>	TAFDC
<b>Book:</b>	Program Nonfinancial Requirements
<b>Chapter:</b>	Parents Under 20
<b>Page:</b>	Parents Under 20 Living Independently

---

**Questions**

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

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

---