



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 2024-64
November 21, 2024

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Local Implementation and Special Populations
Re: Cross Programs: Pediatric RISE in High-Risk Neuroblastoma Program

Overview

Dana Farber Cancer Institute will offer the Pediatric RISE program to families participating in a multi-center clinical trial for high-risk neuroblastoma. The program, Pediatric RISE in High-Risk Neuroblastoma, builds on health equity research, hypothesizing that reducing poverty-related stress will improve cancer outcomes. Eligible families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level will receive six months of cash support.

The randomized study, enrolling 84 families across 10 U.S. centers, will begin October 2024 to March 2028. Income received from the Pediatric RISE in High-Risk Neuroblastoma program is non-countable for all DTA programs.

Purpose

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to inform staff that the income received from the Pediatric RISE intervention is non-countable for all DTA programs.

**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: Universal Basic Income /
Guaranteed Minimum Income
Page: Pilots
Universal Basic Income /
Guaranteed Minimum Income
Pilots

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 at DTA-DL-ITRequests@MassMail.State.MA.US.

Universal Basic Income / Guaranteed Minimum Income Pilots

What is the difference between Universal Basic Income (UBI) and Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) programs?

- UBI programs provide a given sum of money to all members of a community regardless of income, resources, or employment status.
- GMI programs provide unconditional, regular cash payments to certain members of a community meeting certain eligibility thresholds are met, such as income level.

Is income from UBI and GMI pilots countable for DTA Programs?

Income from a UBI or GMI pilots is considered non-countable for TAFDC and EAEDC programs. For SNAP, income from a UBI or GMI pilot is considered non-countable unless the UBI or GMI payments are fully funded by a government source, even if the agency administering the program is not a government entity.

Because income from a pilot is temporary, DTA applicants/clients who are participating in a UBI or GMI pilot should remain connected to all DTA programs and services for which they are otherwise eligible.

Which UBI or GMI pilots are non-countable?

To determine if the income from a UBI or GMI pilot is countable for DTA programs, policy staff need to look at the funding source.

DTA has determined that the income received from the following pilots is non-countable for all DTA programs:

- [Family Health Project](#)
- [Rise Up Cambridge](#)
- Pediatric RISE Program Phase 2
- Pediatric RISE in High-Risk Neuroblastoma
- [Newton Thrive](#)
- Support to Low-Income Mothers of Preterm Infants Pilot
- [United South End Settlements \(USES\) S.T.E.P. program](#)
- [Boston Area Youth-Cash Assistance for Stable Housing program \(BAY-CASH\)](#)
- [Camp Harbor View Guaranteed Income Program](#)
- Somerville Guaranteed Basic Income Program
- Springfield WORKS Cliff Effect Pilot

If a client reports they are participating in a UBI or GMI pilot, or something that sounds similar but is not listed above, appropriate TAO staff should send the information to the Procedural Issues Mailbox for a determination.

Last Update: November 21, 2024