

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

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Online Guide Transmittal 2024-67 December 5, 2024

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Local Implementation and

Special Populations

Re: EAEDC: Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Lebanon

Overview

Due to the armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions in Lebanon that prevent nationals of Lebanon from returning safely, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has designated a new Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Lebanon for an 18-month period.

The designation of Lebanon for TPS enables Lebanon nationals (and individuals without nationality who last habitually resided in Lebanon) who have been continuously residing in the United States **on or prior to October 16, 2024**, to file initial applications for TPS, so long as they meet eligibility requirements. Individuals who entered the U.S. after October 16, 2024 are not eligible for TPS. Individuals who are approved or have pending status for TPS must have documentation from USCIS verifying this temporary status.

Once verified, individuals are considered Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) for purposes of EAEDC eligibility, and accordingly, may be eligible for EAEDC provided they meet all other nonfinancial and financial requirements.

REMEMBER: Individuals who are approved or pending for TPS are not eligible for SNAP or TAFDC benefits, **unless** they qualify under a different noncitizen status, e.g., Refugee.

Purpose

This Transmittal advises staff about the new designation of TPS for nationals and individuals without nationality who have previously resided in the country of Lebanon.

Staff Procedures

For detailed policy and procedures on the EAEDC eligibility of clients with TPS, including how to enter TPS immigration status on the BEACON INS Designation page, please see the EAEDC Temporary Protected Status (TPS) page of the Online Guide found here: Home > EAEDC > General Nonfinancial Requirements > Noncitizen > Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

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 <u>DTA.Procedural Issues</u>.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk at DTA-DL-ITRequests@MassMail.State.MA.US.