



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

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor


MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

KARYN POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

JEFF McCUE
Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2019-01
January 10, 2019**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From:  Raul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Programs and Field Operations

Re: Cross Programs: 2019 Social Security COLA for TAFDC, EAEDC and SNAP

Overview

Every year in January, the Social Security Administration (SSA) implements a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for RSDI and SSI recipients. This year the COLA increase is 2.8%. This COLA can affect TAFDC, EAEDC and SNAP benefits. The Online Guide changes advise staff about:

- the implementation of the SSA COLA;
- the notices that will be sent to the affected households; and
- information on the 2019 Medicare B premiums, 2019 Medicare D deductibles and the 2019 Medex premiums.

COLA calculations for February 2019 will be completed on the following schedule:

- Social Security numbers ending in 0-4 will be completed from 1/19/2019 through 1/21/2019.
 - Social Security numbers ending in 5-8 will be completed from 1/26/2019 through 1/27/2019.
 - Social Security numbers ending in 9 will be completed on 2/2/2019.
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**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects
Book: SSA COLA
Page: SSA COLA Overview

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects
Book: SSA COLA
Page: Medex Premiums

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects
Book: SSA COLA
Page: Medicare Part B

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects
Book: SSA COLA
Page: Medicare Part D

Topic: Notices/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Page: Cross Program Notices

**Obsolete Online
Guide Page**

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects
Book: SSA COLA
Page: COLA

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 the DTA Mailbox.

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