



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


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**Online Guide Transmittal 2019-98
December 26, 2019**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From:  Paul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Programs and Field Operations
Re: Cross Programs: Treatment of Census Earnings

Overview

In preparation for the nationwide 2020 Decennial Census the Federal Government is actively recruiting and hiring thousands of individuals. Concern about temporary earned income affecting eligibility for means tested benefits including Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC) and Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children (EAEDC) has been a challenge to the recruitment of census workers. In order to minimize concerns and incentivize census employment, the Federal Government is encouraging public benefit programs to exclude temporary income from census employment when determining eligibility for these programs. In accordance, earnings of temporary decennial census workers will be noncountable income for DTA programs.

Purpose

This Transmittal informs staff of updated Online Guide pages advising how to treat census income for SNAP and Economic Assistance programs.
