

Materials for 2024 Income Maximization Training

Based on Mass Legal Services resources gathered by Legal Services Center, GBLS, and MLRI

Handouts

- Advocacy Tools for Maximizing Income and Reducing Expenses 2023 (training power point slides attached)
- Benefits and Resources Checklist (attached) (pdf)
- [SNAP Benefit Amounts](#) [3]
- [TAFDC Table of Need and Payment Standards](#) [4]
- [Moving benefits from DTA for SSI Recipients](#) [5]
- [2023 SSI Payment Levels in MA](#) [6]
- [MassHealth Income Level Charts](#) [7]
- [Boston Tax Help Coalition](#) [8]
- Faculty bios - update per prior emails
- Advocacy Campaign:
 - [Lift Our Kids TAFDC Grant Campaign](#) [9]
 - [SNAP Eligibility Rules/Rights for College Students](#) [10]
- [Agenda](#) [13] – update per new agenda

Additional Materials

TAFDC:

- [Income Eligibility Charts and Information](#) [11] (link)
- [DTA Ombudsman's Office and Local Office Contacts](#) [15] (link)
- [List of DTA Client Assistance Coordinators](#) [15] (link)
- [TAFDC Transportation Benefits](#) [16] (link)
- [Transitional Support Services](#) [17] (link)

Child Care Benefits:

- [Child Care Benefits](#) [19] (pdf)
- [Financial Assistance for Families](#) [20] (link)
- [Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies](#) [21] (link)
- [Desk Guide to Non-citizen Eligibility for Child Care Financial Assistance](#) [22] (link to pdf)

Child Support:

- [Mass.gov Child Support Page](#) [23] (link)

Transportation:

- [MassHealth Transportation Services](#) [24] (link)
 - [How to Complete and Submit the PT-1 Form for Transportation Online](#) [25] (link) and [PT-1 Form](#) [26] (link)
- Help with Buying a Car
 - [Good News Garage/MRC car program](#) [28], and [1-800-Charity-Cars](#) [29] (link)

- [Accessibility on the MBTA \[30\]](#) (link)
- [TAFDC Advocacy Guide \[31\]](#) (link)
- [Youth Pass Eligibility Criteria \[32\]](#)
- [Bluebikes EBT and Other Discounts \[33\]](#)

Health Care:

- Understanding the Affordable Care Act:
 - [How MassHealth Counts Income \[34\]](#) (link)
 - [Understanding immigrants' eligibility for MassHealth & other subsidized coverage \[35\]](#) (link)
- [Application for health and dental coverage and help paying costs \[36\]](#) (link)
- [MassHealth Permission to Share Information Form \(PSI\) \[37\]](#) (link)
- [Application for Waiver or Reduction of MassHealth premium \[38\]](#) (link)
- [Tips for meeting a MassHealth deductible \[39\]](#) (link)
- [MassHealth and Other Health Programs Upper Income Levels Chart \[40\]](#) (pdf)

Education and Training:

- UI Training Opportunities Program:
 - [Overview \[41\]](#) (link)
 - [Requirements \[42\]](#) (link)
 - [Application Information \[43\]](#) (link)
- [Resources about Pell Grants and other Financial Aid for UI Claimants \[44\]](#) (link)
- [Workforce Investment Act Policy Memorandum: Individual Training Accounts \(ITA\) \[45\]](#) (pdf)

SNAP/Food Stamps:

- [Overview of Snap and Food Benefits \[46\]](#) (link)
- Food Benefits and Immigrants:
 - [Eligibility \[48\]](#) (link)
- How to Increase SNAP benefits through child care and medical deductions:
 - [Child and Dependent Care Deduction \[49\]](#) (link)
 - [Medical Expense Deduction \[50\]](#) (links)
- [SNAP benefits charts \[51\]](#): Working families with children; UI recipients; and Two Person Elder/Disabled Households with Unearned Income (link)
- [College students access to SNAP benefits \[52\]](#) (link)
- [SNAP photo IDs for EBT cards \[53\]](#) (link)
- [Online SNAP calculators \[54\]](#) (link)
- [2024 SNAP Advocacy Guide \[55\]](#) (link)
- [ABAWD Info \[56\]](#) (link)

Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Benefits:

- [WIC program overview \[57\]](#) on Mass.gov (link)
- [WIC approved food guide \[58\]](#) (link)
- [The WIC Card \[59\]](#) (link)
- [Income Guidelines \[60\]](#) (link)
- [How to Apply \[61\]](#) (link)

- [Can men participate in WIC? \[60\] \(link\)](#)

Unemployment Insurance (UI):

- [2023 Unemployment Advocacy Guide \[62\] \(link\)](#)
- [Department of Unemployment Assistance \[63\]](#)
- [Department of Unemployment Assistance on CARES Act \[64\]](#)
- [Attorney General's Office FAQ on COVID and Employment Issues \[65\]](#)

Utilities:

- [2023 LIHEAP eligibility and benefit chart \[68\]](#)
- [DHCD Cold Relief Information \[69\] \(link\)](#)
- [Fuel Assistance benefits - who is eligible and how to apply \[69\] \(link\)](#)
- [Utilities and Other Benefits \[70\]](#)
 - [Shutoff Protection \[71\] \(link\)](#)
- [Lifeline – benefit to access phone and minutes \[72\] \(link\)](#)
- [Utilities Advocacy Resources \[73\] \(link\)](#)
- [Affordable Connectivity Program \[74\]](#)

Tax Credits:

- [IRS EITC income limits and max credit amounts \[75\] \(link\)](#)
- [Outreach for Tax Credits \[76\] \(link\)](#)
- [EIC and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren \[77\] \(link\)](#)
- [Education Tax Credits for College and Job Training \[78\] \(link\)](#)
- [Economic Stimulus Payment/Recovery Rebate Credit \[79\]](#)

Homelessness Prevention Programs:

- [Residential Assistance for Families in Transition \(RAFT\) \[81\]](#)
- [Emergency Assistance Advocacy Guide \[82\] \(link\)](#)
- [Find regional administering agency by city or town \[83\]](#)
- [Family Resource Centers \(for METAR\) \[85\]](#)
- [CHAPA Housing Toolbox \[86\]](#)

Bankruptcy:

- [National Consumer Law Center Resources for Consumers \[87\] \(link\)](#)

Student Loan Debt:

- [Income-Driven Repayment Plans Q&A \[88\] \(link\)](#)
- [Income Based Repayment, Pay as you earn, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs \[89\] \(link\)](#)
- [Discharge application for total and permanent disability \[90\] \(link\)](#)
- [Discharge applicant Representative Designation \[91\] \(link\)](#)
- [NCLC's Student Loan Resources \[92\] \(link\)](#)

CORI/Criminal Record Sealing:

- [MassLegalServices CORI section \[96\]](#)
- [Coming Home Directory \[97\]](#)

- [Legal Services Center CORI Initiative](#) [98]

Immigrants/Public Charge:

- [MassLegalServices Information on Public Charge](#) [99]

Veterans' Services:

- [MassLegalServices Veterans section](#) [100]
- [Chapter 115 Benefits/Safety Net Program](#) [101]
- [SNAP for Veterans](#) [103]
- [Mass Vet Benefit Calculator](#) [104]
- [DAV Massachusetts](#) [105]

Links

- [3] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/snap-benefit-charts>
- [4] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/table-of-need-payment-standards/download>
- [5] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/moving-benefit-ssi-recipients-150-cash-payment-dta>
- [6] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-supplemental-security-income-ssi-payment-standards-effective-january-1-2023-0/download#:~:text=Note%3A%20The%202023%20SSI%20federal,chronic%2Ddisease%20hospitals%20is%20%2472.80.>
- [7] <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/program-financial-guidelines-for-certain-masshealth-applicants-and-members-0>
- [8] <https://www.bostontaxhelp.org/>
- [9] <https://www.liftfourkidsma.org/>
- [10] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/food4students>
- [11] <https://www.mass.gov/lists/dta-program-eligibility-charts-and-tables>
- [15] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/dta-local-office-contact-information-client-assistance-coordinators-domestic-violence>
- [16] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/get-child-care-and-transportation-help>
- [17] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/post-tafdc-benefits>
- [18] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/olgt-2016-57-tafdc-work-related-expense-and-earned-income-deduction-changes>
- [19] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/get-child-care-and-transportation-help>
- [20] <http://www.mass.gov/edu/birth-grade-12/early-education-and-care/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-for-families/>
- [21] <http://www.mass.gov/edu/birth-grade-12/early-education-and-care/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-for-families/ccr-and-rs/>
- [22] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/desk-guide-non-citizen-eligibility-child-care>
- [23] <https://www.mass.gov/child-support>
- [24] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/health-care-transportation>
- [25] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/how-to-complete-and-submit-the-pt-1-online>
- [26] <https://www.mass.gov/media/1018326/download>
- [28] <https://www.goodnewsgarage.org/>
- [29] <http://www.800charitycars.org/>
- [30] <https://www.mbta.com/accessibility>
- [31] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/2019-tafdc-advocacy-guide-0>
- [32] <https://cdn.mbta.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/Youth-pass-program-eligibility-guide-English-Nov20.pdf>
- [33] <http://https://www.bluebikes.com/pricing/income-eligible-program>
- [34] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/masshealth-commonhealth/download#:~:text=A%20household's%20countable%20income%20is,MassHealth%20MAGI%20household%20composition.&text=benefits>
- [35] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/understanding-immigrants-eligibility-masshealth-other-subsidized-coverage-2020-0>
- [36] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/masshealth-benefit-request-applications-english-and-spanish>
- [37] <https://www.mass.gov/lists/hipaa-forms-for-masshealth-members>

[38] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/application-for-waiver-or-reduction-of-masshealth-premium-englishspanish/download>

[39] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/tips-meeting-deductible-masshealth-disabled-individuals-under-age-65>

[40] <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/program-financial-guidelines-for-certain-masshealth-applicants-and-members-0>

[41] <https://www.mass.gov/training-opportunities-program-top>

[42] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/training-opportunities-program-eligibility-requirements>

[43] <https://www.mass.gov/media/1530226/download>

[44] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/training-opportunities-program-financial-assistance>

[45] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/system/files/library/Workforce%20Investment%20Act%20Individual%20Training%20Accounts.pdf>

[46] <https://www.masslegalhelp.org/public-benefits-ssi/snap-food-benefits>

[47] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/dta-snap-and-cash-benefits-during-covid-19>

[48] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/incomefood-benefits-and-immigrant-eligibility-chart-eligible-statuses>

[49] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/snap-and-dependent-care-child-care-deduction-overview-and-attachments>

[50] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/food-stamps-snap-and-medical-expense-deduction>

[51] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/glance-snap-benefit-charts-working-families-elderdisabled-households-ui-recipients>

[52] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/snap-eligibility-rulesrights-college-students>

[53] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/33-what-photo-ebt-card-and-who-needs-have-one>

[54] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/food-stamps-snap-calculator>

[55] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/FoodStampSNAPAAdvocacyGuide>

[56] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/60-what-abawd-3-month-time-limit-childless-adults-ages-18-50>

[57] <https://www.mass.gov/women-infants-children-wic-nutrition-program>

[58] <https://www.mass.gov/media/1088526/download>

[59] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/using-your-wic-card-in-stores>

[60] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/check-eligibility-for-wic>

[61] <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-the-women-infants-children-wic-nutrition-program>

[62] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/2022-unemployment-advocacy-guide>

[63] <http://www.mass.gov/covid-19-and-unemployment-what-you-need-to-know>

[64] <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/cares-act-and-american-rescue-plan-act>

[65] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/frequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19-employee-rights-and-employer-obligations>

[68] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/fy-2023-liheap-income-eligibility-and-benefit-level-chart-december-5-2022/download>

[69] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap>

[70] <https://www.masslegalhelp.org/public-benefits-ssi/utilities-other-benefits>

- [71] <https://www.masslegalhelp.org/housing/lt1-chapter-6-protections-against-shut-offs>
- [72] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/lifeline-services>
- [73] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/utility-advocacy-low-income-households-massachusetts>
- [74] <https://www.masslegalhelp.org/income-benefits/utilities/phone-and-internet-acp>
- [75] <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit/eitc-income-limits-maximum-credit-amounts-next-year>
- [76] <https://www.taxoutreach.org/outreach-strategies/>
- [77] <http://www.eitcoutreach.org/outreach-strategies/relative-caregivers/>
- [78] <http://www.eitcoutreach.org/learn/tax-credits/edu-credit/>
- [79] <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/recovery-rebate-credit>
- [81] <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/how-to-apply-for-raft>
- [82] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/content/2014-emergency-assistance-advocacy-guide-0>
- [83] <https://hedfuel.azurewebsites.net/raa.aspx>
- [85] <https://www.frma.org/>
- [86] <https://www.housingtoolbox.org/>
- [87] <https://www.nclc.org/our-work/resources-for-consumers/>
- [88] <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment/plans/income-driven>
- [89] <http://www.ibrinfo.org/what.vp.html>
- [90] <https://www.disabilitydischarge.com/>
- [91] <https://www.disabilitydischarge.com/Application-Process/>
- [92] <https://www.nclc.org/topic/federal-student-loans/>
- [96] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/library-directory/cori>
- [97] <https://www.cominghomedirectory.org/>
- [98] <https://www.legalservicescenter.org/get-legal-help/safety-net-project/lsc-cori-sealing-initiative/>
- [99] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/library/directory/benefits/immigrant-eligibility>
- [100] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/library/directory/benefits/veterans-services>
- [101] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/chapter-115-benefitssafety-net-program>
- [102] <https://www.masslegalservices.org/system/files/library/Chapter%20115%20COVID%20procedures.pdf>
- [103] <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/increasing-access-to-snap-for-veterans>
- [104] <https://massvetben.org/>
- [105] <https://www.davma.org/>