

## *From the Hotline*

The questions and answers in this month's "From the Hotline" column concern the elimination of funding for the Employment Services Program (ESP). Refer to Field Operations Memo 2003-6 and Field Operations Memo 2003-6A for additional information on this topic.

**Q.** Will I receive a printout listing the AUs affected by the elimination of funding?

**A.** A list of impacted AUs in your caseload may be identified by accessing the "ESP Active Component Activity" View.

**Q.** Can I still authorize child care for recipients participating in programs that are not funded through ESP? For example, I currently have a recipient in a GED program funded by the Department of Education. Can I authorize child care for this AU?

**A.** Yes. You can continue to authorize child care for non-ESP-funded activities. To ensure that the child care is authorized for your recipient, remember to include the approved activity in this recipient's Employment Development Plan (EDP).

**Q.** Have regulations concerning the sanctioning process been changed?

**A.** No. Policy regarding sanctions has not been revised as a result of the elimination of funding for ESP. However, remember that:

- until recipients have been informed at their scheduled appointment of their revised responsibilities, they may not be sanctioned for failure to participate in an ESP-funded activity; and
- exempt recipients cannot be sanctioned for failing to participate.

Finally, any individual who is a victim of domestic violence may request a good cause waiver of the work program requirement as well as the 24-month time limit. Refer to 106 CMR 203.110 for more information.



## *Issuing a Mass EBT Card or PIN by Mail*

All

***A User's Guide:  
Transitional Assistance  
Programs and BEACON  
Update 040***

This update allows all applicants and recipients eligible for Valid-Without-Photo Mass EBT cards to be issued an original or replacement Mass EBT card or PIN by mail.

