



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance
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FAX 97- 13
Field Operations Memo 97-12
February 3, 1997

To: Local Office Directors
From: Joyce Sampson, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations
Re: Child Care Authorizations for Teen Parents

Background

At the end of December, the Legislature amended the FY 1997 Budget to provide child care for teen parents attending high school or a GED program on a full-time basis. If either a teen parent or the child of a teen parent is receiving TAFDC or AFDC benefits, the teen parent may apply for a Child Care Authorization (CCA) at the local DTA office. If neither the teen parent nor the child are TAFDC or AFDC recipients, the teen parent may apply for child care through the Child Care Resource Agency (CCRA).

Teen Parents Now Eligible for CCAs Through Local DTA Offices

A teen parent receiving SSI and attending high school or a GED program on a full-time basis and whose child(ren) receives TAFDC or AFDC is now eligible for child care.

A teen parent in foster care, who receives TAFDC or AFDC for his or her child(ren) and who needs child care because he or she attends high school or a GED program on a full-time basis, is eligible for child care.

Effective February 3, 1997, CCAs should be issued to teen parents on SSI or in foster care who attend high school or a GED program on a full-time basis and who receive TAFDC or AFDC for their child(ren). Workers should contact teens who have requested and been denied child care but may now be eligible.

**Teen Parents Now
Eligible for CCAs
Through Local DTA
Offices (cont.)**

The Department will be amending policy and procedures to reflect these changes. In the interim, local office workers should refer all non-TAFDC-eligible and non-AFDC-eligible teens requesting child care to the CCRA in their area.

**Non-TAFDC and Non-
AFDC Teen Parents**

Effective February 3, 1997, if neither the teen parent nor the child are TAFDC or AFDC recipients, the teen parent requesting child care will be referred to a CCRA for child care services. Those eligible for child care include all teens under 18 years who receive child care under the Special ESP and Child-Care-Only Eligibility requirements (see 106 CMR 207.230) or Special MassJOBS and Child-Care-Only Eligibility (see 106 CMR 307.280).

Note: Instructions for managing the determination of child care eligibility for non-TAFDC and non-AFDC teen parents are being sent to the CCRA's.

Questions

If you have any questions, please have your Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline at (617) 348-8478.
