

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Transitional Assistance 600 Washington Street • Boston, MA 02111

JUDYANN BIGBY, M.D. Secretary

JULIA E. KEHOE Commissioner

Field Operations Memo 2009- 22A May 15, 2009

To:

Transitional Assistance Office Staff

From:

John Augeri, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re:

Revised Spring SNAP H-EAT Report

Background

On the weekend of 4/24/2009, MIS restored the Heating/Cooling SUA to approximately 10,000 SNAP households who received H-EAT benefits in November 2008. The Heating/Cooling SUA had been inadvertently removed. MIS recalculated May benefits for these households since H-EAT Program eligibility is for a one year period.

A revised report listing these impacted households will be e-mailed with this memo. The revised report includes the month that the Heating/Cooling SUA was removed. Case managers must review each household on the report for lost benefits. Supplemental SNAP benefits must be calculated and issued for any month(s) in which benefits were lost as a result of the removal of the Heating/Cooling SUA. Case managers are reminded to make an entry in the BEACON Narratives tab regarding the reason for the supplement and the month(s) of lost benefits.

Important: A review of the cases on the revised report revealed that the Heating/Cooling SUA was typically removed as part of a SNAP recertification or an address change. At recertification or case maintenance, case managers must check for a 10/18/2008 or 4/24/2009 BEACON Narratives tab entry indicating the household was H-EAT eligible. The Heating/Cooling SUA must be continued for the balance of the appropriate one-year period ending either in October 2009 or April 2010. Supervisors are reminded to check the BEACON Narratives tab entry as part of a recertification or case maintenance review.

Questions

If you have any questions, please have your Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline.