



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

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Online Guide Transmittal 2016-57
October 14, 2016

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Program and Policy Implementation

 Paul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re: TAFDC – Work Related Expense and Earned Income Deduction Changes

Overview

Effective with BEACON Build, 48.6, scheduled for October 24th 2016, the Department will be making the following changes to the Work Related Expense and Earned Income deductions used in the current TAFDC grant calculation.

- The existing 30 1/3 and 30 1/2 earned income disregard will be replaced with a flat 50% disregard regardless of exemption status.
- The TAFDC Work Related expense deduction will be increased from \$150 to \$200.
- The TAFDC 185% gross income eligibility test will be eliminated.

All cases affected by these changes will be automatically calculated over the weekend of October 21, 2016 and sent an EBC notice with the new grant amount.

No case manager action is needed. These changes will not be applied to the grant calculations of EAEDC cases.

Purpose

The purpose of this Online Guide update is to inform staff of:

- the Work Related Expense deduction changes;
 - earned income disregard changes; and
 - the elimination of the TAFDC 185% gross income eligibility test.
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**Eliminated
Online Guide
Chapter and
Page**

The following Chapter is being eliminated from the Online Guide:

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter: Eligibility Standards

Page: Eligibility Standards

**Updated Online
Guide Chapter
and Page**

The following Pages are being updated in the Online Guide:

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Program Nonfinancial Requirements

Chapter: Work Program Requirements

Page: Correctly Establishing Time Limits and Reduced Need and Payment Standard Cases

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter: Income-TAFDC

Subchapter: Income Overview-TAFDC

Page: Types of Income- TAFDC

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter: Income-TAFDC

Subchapter: Income Overview-TAFDC

Page: Rules for Counting Income- TAFDC

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter : Income- TAFDC

Subchapter: Deemed Income

Page: Deeming Income to the Filing Unit of a Pregnant Woman

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter: Income- TAFDC

Subchapter: Roomer and Boarder Income- TAFDC

Page: Roomer and Boarder-TAFDC

Topic: TAFDC

Book: Financial Requirements

Chapter: Reduced Need and Payment Standards

Page: Reduced Need and Payment Standards

**Updated Online
Guide Chapter
and Page
(Continued)**

Topic: TAFDC
Book: Employment
Chapter: Employment
Page: Work Related Expense Deduction

Topic: TAFDC
Book: Employment
Chapter: Employment
Page: Eligibility for the 30 1/3 or 30 1/2 Earned Income Disregards
from Gross Earning*

***This Page has been renamed to Eligibility for the 1/2 Earned
Income Disregard from Gross Earnings**

Topic: Notices/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: TAFDC Calculation Page Example
Page: TAFDC Calculation Page Example

Questions

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email the DTA Mailbox.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.
