



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

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Lieutenant Governor

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Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2017-01
January 20, 2017**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

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

Re:  Paul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re: Cross Programs: 2017 Social Security COLA for TAFDC, EAEDC and SNAP

Overview

Every year the Social Security Administration implements a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for RSDI and SSI benefits. This COLA can affect TAFDC, EAEDC and SNAP benefits. The Online Guide changes advise staff about:

- the implementation of the SSA COLA,
- the Streamweaver notices that will be sent to the affected households, and
- information on the 2017 Medicare Part B premiums, 2017 Medicare Part D deductibles and the 2017 Medex premiums.

Important: COLA calculations for February 2017 will be completed on the following schedule:

- Social Security numbers ending in 0-5 will be completed from 1/20/2017 through 1/22/2017.
 - Social Security numbers ending in 6-9 will be completed from 1/27/2017 through 1/29/2017.
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BEACON Online Guide The following books/pages are being updated.

Book/Pages Updated

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: Social Security Administration (SSA) COLA Overview

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/ Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: MEDEX Premiums

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: Medicare Part B

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: Medicare Part D

BEACON Online Guide
Book/Pages Obsoleted

Topic: Scheduled Mailings/Projects

Book: SSA COLA

Page: 2016 SSA COLA

**New BEACON
Online
Guide
Book/Pages**

Topic: Notice/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: SSA COLA
Page: CAP COLA Notice

Topic: Notice/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: SSA COLA
Page: Cash and SNAP SSA COLA Notice

Topic: Notice/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: SSA COLA
Page: Cash Only COLA Notice

Topic: Notice/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: SSA COLA
Page: Residential Facility COLA Notice

Topic: Notice/Forms
Book: Cross Program
Chapter: SSA COLA
Page: SNAP Only COLA Notice

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.
