



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


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Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2018-21  
April 6, 2018**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From:  Raul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Programs and Field Operations**  
**Re: Cross Programs: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)**

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## Overview

A CSA is a system that allows for direct exchange of goods between a consumer and a farm or group of farms. This supports local economies and gives consumers access to fresh produce.

The Department, in collaboration with Project Bread and a number of local CSA partners, developed a SNAP CSA program initiative in which SNAP clients may participate.

Participation in the SNAP CSA Program is voluntary and benefits SNAP households by increasing access to fresh, local, and affordable fruits and vegetables. Participating clients pay for their CSA share with SNAP benefits and receive weekly shares at predetermined community sites.

This initiative is approved through the 2020 CSA Season.

**Important:** Staff must continue to remind clients of voluntary participation in the CSA Program. This program is separate from the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP), which is being suspended on April 15, 2018.

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**Purpose**

This Online Guide Transmittal advises staff that clients may use SNAP benefits at CSA programs through 2020. Additionally, the CSA pages were updated to reflect the appropriate points of contact for questions related to CSA programs.

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**Updated Online Guide Page**

**Topic:** Cross Programs  
**Book:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)  
**Page:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Nutrition Education (HIP)  
**Chapter:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)  
**Page:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

**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.

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