



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


CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

KARYN POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

MARY SHEEHAN
Acting Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-24
April 14, 2022**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From:  **Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**
Re: SNAP: Expunging of SNAP Benefits Due to Account Inactivity

Overview

Effective mid-May 2022, when a client's SNAP benefit account has not been accessed at all for a total of 274 days, the SNAP benefits issued 274 or more days prior will be permanently purged from the client's EBT account.

The Department will send a notice that includes the date benefits will be expunged and what the household must do to prevent the expungement. This notice will be mailed no later than 30 days before the date of expungement.

Households that are due to have SNAP benefits expunged in mid-May will be sent the notice the evening of April 14, 2022.

Purpose

This Online Guide update advises staff that the timeline for expunging SNAP benefits has been reduced from 365 days to 274 days (nine months) per federal requirement. Additionally, guidance regarding restoration of SNAP benefits has been removed from the Expunged Benefit Restoration Request OLG page, as it is no longer applicable.

**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: EBT
Page: Unaccessed EBT Benefits

Topic: Cross Programs
Book: EBT
Page: Expunged Benefit Restoration Requests

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.Procedural Issues Mailbox.

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