



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

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**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-28
April 14, 2022**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management
**Re: EAEDC: Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for
Afghanistan**

Overview

Due to both ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions in Afghanistan that prevent Afghani nationals, and those of no nationality who last habitually resided in Afghanistan, from returning to Afghanistan safely, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has recently announced a new designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Afghanistan.

This designation will be in effect for 18 months beginning on March 15, 2022, and ending on September 15, 2023 and applies to Afghani nationals (and individuals without nationality who last habitually resided in Afghanistan), who were already residing in the United States as of March 15, 2022, to be eligible for this TPS status.

**Overview
(Continued)**

Individuals who are approved or have pending TPS status must have documentation from USCIS verifying their temporary status. Once verified, they are considered Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) for DTA application purposes. These individuals may be eligible for EAEDC provided they meet all other EAEDC nonfinancial and financial requirements.

Individuals who are approved or pending for TPS are not eligible for SNAP or TAFDC benefits, **unless** they qualify under a different noncitizen status, i.e., Refugee.

Purpose

This Transmittal advises staff about the new designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Afghanistan.

**Staff
Procedures**

For detailed policy and procedures on the EAEDC eligibility of clients with TPS, including how to enter TPS immigration status on the BEACON INS Designation page, please see the EAEDC Temporary Protected Status (TPS) page of the Online Guide found [here](#).

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 them to DTA.Procedural Issues.

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