



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


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**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-34
May 6, 2022**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management
Re: Cross Programs: P-EBT Expungement and Restoration

Overview

Original Expungement Rules

Individuals that did not access their P-EBT benefits within 365 days of the benefit issuance, between Spring 2020 to March 2021, had their P-EBT benefits expunged. The Department is now sending a one-time expungement notice to Non-DTA and DTA households (excluding those with a “Homeless” indicator) that did not access their P-EBT benefits within 365 days, in this period. The notice will indicate the expungement amount and inform the P-EBT client how they may get expunged benefits restored.

To get P-EBT benefits restored, the P-EBT client must contact the DTA Assistance line within 180 days from the issuance date of the notice.

DTA and Non-DTA households with a “Homeless” indicator had their P-EBT benefits restored through an automatic Batch job in BEACON.

New Expungement Rules

When a client’s P-EBT benefit account has not been accessed at all for a total of 274 days, the P-EBT benefits issued 274 or more days prior will be expunged. The P-EBT expungement rule is aligned with the SNAP expungement timeframe of 274 days. When benefits are expunged, P-EBT clients may get a one-time restoration of the expunged benefits if they make the request to restore by 180 days from the date of the notice.

**Overview
(Continued)**

The Department will send a P-EBT Expungement Warning Notice to DTA and Non-DTA households that will advise of 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. If after 30 days, the client still has not accessed the benefits, the Department will expunge the benefits and send the client a P-EBT Expungement Notice. This notice will advise of the expungement amount and inform them that they may have expunged benefits restored if they contact the DTA within 180 days of the notice.

Additionally, new functionality has been built into BEACON to allow case managers to request, approve, or deny P-EBT Expungement and Restoration records. An expunged record must be approved by a Supervisor.

Purpose

This Online Guide update advises staff about:

- the expungement of P-EBT benefits issued from Spring 2020 through March 2021,
 - the new rule for expunging P-EBT benefits after 274 days (nine months),
 - the potential of having P-EBT benefits restored within 180 days of the issuance of the P-EBT Expungement Notice,
 - two notices. A P-EBT Benefit Expungement Warning Notice that will be sent to clients 30 days before expungement, and a P-EBT Expungement Notice that will advise clients when the expungement has actually happened. This notice will also inform clients of the potential to have P-EBT benefits restored, and
 - a new functionality built into BEACON to restore P-EBT benefits.
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**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

Book:	COVID-19
Book:	P-EBT
Page:	P-EBT Expungement and Restoration

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.
