



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


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**Online Guide Transmittal 2023-43  
June 8, 2023**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From:  Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**  
**Re: SNAP: Rollback of Student COVID-19 Temporary Procedures**

**Overview**

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The Consolidated Appropriations Act effective December 27, 2020 included a provision that expanded college student eligibility to include:

- Students who are eligible to participate in a State or federally financed work study during the regular school year, but who may not be actively participating in work study; and
- Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0 in the current academic year.

The expansion of college student eligibility provision is tied to the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and will be phased out.

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide update is to advise staff that the temporary student exemptions are ending due to the end of the Public Health Emergency.

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**Substantive Changes**

Staff must follow the procedures relative to student status as outlined below:

New Applications

**For new applications**, temporary exemptions will remain in effect for applications received on or before June 9, 2023. Staff must process new applications received on or after June 10, 2023 using permanent student procedures only.

Existing Households

**For Recertifications**, temporary exemptions will remain in effect for Recertifications received through and including June 30, 2023. Recertifications received on or after July 1, 2023 must be processed using permanent student procedures only.

**During Case Maintenance**, households are not required to report if a student loses eligibility for one of the temporary college student exemptions. Only if a household directly reports information to DTA that the student is no longer eligible for a temporary exemption, we must then screen for another student exemption prior to determining the student's eligibility.

Please note that the Educational Income for SNAP Households guidance has been removed from the COVID-19 book and placed in permanent Online Guide pages. The Processing College Student Eligibility page will remain in the COVID-19 book during this transition phase and be removed once it is no longer applicable to new applications and recertifications received in the periods outlined above.

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**Updated Online Guide Page**

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Eligibility Requirements  
**Chapter:** Students  
**Page:** Students

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**New Online Guide Page**

**Topic:** Cross Programs  
**Book:** Income  
**Chapter:** Noncountable Income  
**Page:** Educational Income - Noncountable for SNAP and EA

**Please note: There is no change to the content of this page. The mapping of the page in the Online Guide has changed.**

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**Updated COVID-19 Online Guide Page**

**Book:** COVID-19  
**Book:** Student Eligibility and Educational Income  
**Page:** Processing College Student Eligibility and Educational Income for SNAP Households

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**Obsoleted  
COVID-19 Online  
Guide Page**

**Book:** COVID-19  
**Book:** Student Eligibility and Educational Income  
**Page:** Educational Income - Noncountable for SNAP and  
EA

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**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.

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