



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

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**Online Guide Transmittal 2024-1  
January 4, 2024**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**  
**Re: Cross Program: Update on Treatment of Training Stipends**

Handwritten initials "KP" in a circle, with "for SS" written below it.

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**Overview**

Effective immediately, training stipends are considered noncountable income for the TAFDC, EAEDC, and SNAP programs. This change is being made to support economic mobility for individuals by allowing them to maintain access to benefits while participating in training programs that include stipends.

Training stipends include, but are not limited to, payments from the Department of Career Services (DCS), Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC), and nonprofit organizations.

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to inform staff of related updates to the Online Guide regarding the treatment of training stipends.

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**Revised Online  
Guide Pages**

**Topic:** TAFDC  
**Book:** Financial Requirements  
**Chapter:** Income - TAFDC  
**Subchapter:** Income Overview - TAFDC  
**Page:** Noncountable Income - TAFDC

**Topic:** EAEDC  
**Book:** Financial Requirements  
**Chapter:** Income - EAEDC  
**Subchapter:** Income Overview - EAEDC  
**Page:** Noncountable Income - EAEDC

**Topic:** EAEDC  
**Book:** Categorical Requirements  
**Chapter:** Participant in MA Rehabilitation Commission  
**Page:** Completing an MRC Disability Claim on BEACON

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Eligibility Requirements  
**Chapter:** Income  
**Subchapter:** Noncountable Income  
**Page:** Noncountable Income - SNAP

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Eligibility Requirements  
**Chapter:** Income  
**Subchapter:** Payments to Clients in E&T Services  
**Page:** The Treatment of Certain Payments Made to Clients  
Participating in Employment and Training Services

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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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