



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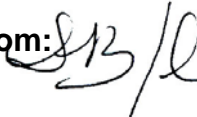
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Secretary

JULIA E. KEHOE  
Commissioner

**Operations Memo 2011-34**  
**July 5, 2011**

**To:** Transitional Assistance Office Staff

**From:**  Stephanie Brown, Assistant Commissioner for Policy, Program and External Relations

**Re:** TAFDC – ESP BEACON Changes

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**Purpose of Memo** BEACON is being modified to reflect changes to ESP. This Operations Memo advises TAO staff about these changes.

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**BEACON Changes** Effective July 5, 2011, with BEACON Build 44.3, the following changes are being made:

- a reason has been added to both the “Meets Compliance” list and “Good Cause” list: “No Resources Available” found on the TAFDC – Work Requirements page and the Good Cause tab of the Sanctions page; and **Important:** This reason can only be used in situations where a client’s FLSA calculation prevents him or her from using community service to meet his or her entire work program requirement and there are no appropriate ESP or non-ESP funded slots available to supplement the hourly difference.

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**BEACON  
Changes  
(continued)**

- the Meets Compliance list and the Good Cause list reasons are now coordinated:

Meets Compliance List (with limit of length of time the “meets compliance” reason is valid in parens entered in the “End Date” field):

- Participation (no end date);
- CORI Check (30 days);
- Domestic Violence Waiver (no more than 6 months);
- Learning Disability Assessment (90 days);
- No Child Care Available (30 days);
- No Community Service Site Available (30 days);
- No Resources Available (no more than 6 months);
- No Transportation Available (30 days);
- Participation in Housing Search (no more than 6 months);
- Site Orientation > 15 days (30 days); and
- Temporary Health Problem (no more than 90 days).

**Note:** If a date greater than six months is entered in the “End Date” field, the case manager will receive an edit message which says: *"A date greater than six months has been entered in this field. The date must be six months or less from today's date."* The case manager must enter the appropriate date in the “End Date” field based on the time-frames above.

Good Cause List:

- Behavioral or school problem of child(ren);
- Death in Immediate Family;
- Eviction;
- Family Crisis or emergency situation;
- Inclement weather/Act of nature;
- Learning Disability Assessment;
- No Child Care Available;
- No Community Service Site Available;
- No Resources Available;
- No Transportation Available;
- Participation in Housing Search;
- Refuses to accept major medical services;
- Requirements of court;
- Temporary Health Problem; and
- Ed/Training – 3 month extension.

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**Questions**

If you have any questions, please have your Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline.

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