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*Executive Office of Health and Human Services*  
**Department of Transitional Assistance**  
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**Operations Memo 2013-4**  
**February 4, 2013**

**To:** Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

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

**Re:** TAFDC and SNAP: 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines

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**Overview**

On January 24, 2013, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in the Federal Register. The poverty guidelines are used to calculate the eligibility standards for the TAFDC and SNAP programs as follows:

- TAFDC: *Income from the Parent(s) of a Teen Parent Under Age 18* (200 percent of the poverty guideline); and
  - SNAP: *Gross Monthly Categorical Eligibility Income Standards* (200 percent of the poverty guideline).
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**Updated Eligibility Standards**

The TAFDC and SNAP eligibility charts and tables affected by the poverty guidelines are posted at [www.mass.gov/dta](http://www.mass.gov/dta). Effective January 24, 2013, the TAFDC charts and tables were updated to reflect the increase in the poverty guidelines. Effective February 1, 2013, the SNAP charts and tables were updated to reflect the increase in the poverty guidelines.

To view the standards, select the Program Eligibility Charts & Tables link under Key Resources. Click the appropriate program and select the appropriate chart or table.

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**BEACON Update** Effective February 1, 2013, BEACON will begin using the increased eligibility standards in the calculation of income eligibility for TAFDC teen parents under age 18 living with a parent, and the gross monthly income test for categorically eligible SNAP households.

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**Obsolete Memo** This Operations Memo obsoletes Operations Memo 2012-9.

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

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