

## ***From the Hotline***

- Q.** I have worked only with TAFDC and PA food stamp AUs. Beginning in April, I will also be handling the associated NPA AU on each cash AU in my caseload. Some of my TAFDC AUs are on Monthly Reporting and the TAFDC reevaluation is conducted once a year. How frequently should I recertify the associated NPA food stamp AUs as they are no longer on Quarterly Reporting?
- A.** Since there is an associated cash AU in this example, the recertification period for the NPA food stamp AU is once every 12 months. Remember, however, that if any change reflected on the TAFDC Monthly Report affects the food stamp benefits for this AU, you must also enter the required changes in BEACON.
- Q.** I have a client who is recently unemployed and receiving Unemployment Compensation (U.C.). His U.C. weekly benefit rate is \$110.00. However, \$11.00 is taken out for Federal tax purposes. This leaves my client with an actual, net payment of \$99.00. In entering his income onto BEACON, should I use the gross or net amount?
- A.** When determining eligibility for food stamp benefits, the full amount (gross or pretax) must be used. The same is true for TAFDC, EAEDC and EA.

## ***FYI***

### ***Teens In Shelter***

Placement into a Teen Structured Living Program (TLP) should be the first option pursued for a homeless pregnant or parenting teen eligible for TAFDC and TLP placement. Homeless pregnant or parenting teens who are TAFDC-eligible must be referred, business-as-usual, to the Central Office Teen Parent Liaison. In the event that TLPs are full, the homeless pregnant or parenting teen 18 or older must be placed in an EA shelter until a TLP opening becomes available or the teen is no longer homeless.

If the homeless pregnant or parenting TAFDC-eligible teen refuses placement in a TLP, a refusal of feasible alternative housing will have occurred. As a result, the AU becomes ineligible for placement into an EA shelter.

If the homeless pregnant or parenting teen 18 or older is not receiving TAFDC and is therefore also ineligible for TLP placement, EA eligibility must be determined. If the pregnant or parenting teen is EA-eligible, placement into an EA shelter must be initiated. These AUs are handled as regular EA-only AUs and do not have to be referred to the Central Office Teen Parent Liaison. If the homeless pregnant or parenting teen is under 18 years old, and is not receiving TAFDC, the TAO should contact the Central Office Teen Parent Liaison for further instruction.

If at any time the pregnant or parenting teen becomes eligible for TAFDC and for TLP placement, the teen would be referred to the Central Office Teen Parent Liaison for assessment and placement in a TLP. The EA shelter placement would be terminated when the teen is placed in the TLP.

### ***BEACON Todays Issued in March 2002***

BT 75 Additional February Food Stamp Closings Without Recertification Notices (3/8/02)

BT 76 TAO Reorganization/AU Reassignment (3/14/02)

BT 77 Recoupment of NPA FS Benefits Issued January 2002 (3/21/02)