



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance
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Field Operations Memo 2008-40
July 21, 2008

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff
From:  John Augeri, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations
Re: Food Stamp Program: Federal Minimum Wage Increase

Overview

Field Operations Memo 2007-38 described increases in the federal minimum wage that began in July 2007 and will continue through July 2009. On July 24, 2008 the federal minimum wage will increase to \$6.55. In the summer of 2009 the federal minimum wage will increase to \$7.25.

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to inform case managers of the July 24, 2008 increase and its effect on food stamp work requirements. TAFDC and EAEDC policy are not affected by this change.

Meeting FS Work Requirement Or FS/ET Requirement

In accordance with 106 CMR 362.310 (B) (10), *Exemption from FS/ET Requirement*, and 106 CMR 362.320 (B) (10), *Exemption from the FS Work Program Requirement*, persons employed or self-employed may be exempt if working a minimum of 30 hours weekly or receiving weekly earnings equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours. As of July 24, 2008, in order to meet the FS/ET or FS work requirement exemption, the average weekly gross income of the employed person(s) must be equal to or greater than \$196.50 weekly (\$6.55 x 30) or \$851.43 monthly (\$196.50 x 4.333). Case managers must review this requirement at intake and recertification.

Questions

If you have any questions, please have your Hotline designee call the Policy Hotline at 617-348-8478.
