



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

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

KARYN POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

AMY KERSHAW
Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2021-17
March 10, 2022**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management
Re: Cross Program: The Essential Employee Premium Pay Program

Overview

On December 13, 2021, Governor Baker signed into law the COVID-19 Essential Employee Premium Pay Program. This premium pay program, the first of its type in the nation, will distribute a \$500 payment to 500,000 low-income workers across Massachusetts.

The one-time lump sum payment received from the Employee Premium Pay Program of \$500 is considered non-countable for SNAP, TAFDC, and EAEDC.

Purpose

The purpose of this Transmittal is to advise staff of The Essential Employee Premium Pay Program and stipulate that income received from this program is noncountable for Economic Assistance and SNAP.

**Revised Online
Guide Pages**

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

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

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

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.
