

DATE: September 15, 2015

TO: Subscribers

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Commissioners, TA Directors, SNAP Directors, Employment Coordinators, Staff Development Coordinators,

FROM: Phyllis D. Morris, Deputy Commissioner
Center for Employment and Economic Supports

SUBJECT: Reminder to Disregard Certain SNAP E&T Sanctions from the SNAP E&T Sanction Progression

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Employment Services Advisor

The purpose of this GIS message is to remind social services districts (districts) of the requirement to not consider Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) sanctions initiated between August 3, 2009 and December 14, 2012, when determining the progression of any future SNAP E&T sanction. The discounting of SNAP E&T sanctions initiated during this time period when determining any future SNAP E&T sanction progression (whether it is the individual's 1st, 2nd or 3rd or subsequent sanction) is due to a Court approved Stipulation of Settlement in Richard C. v. Berlin. Districts were notified of this requirement in 14-ADM-06, SNAP Conciliation with Option to Avoid a SNAP Work Sanction through Demonstrated Compliance.

Districts must ensure that workers do not include any SNAP E&T sanction initiated between August 3, 2009, and December 14, 2012, when determining the progression of any future SNAP E&T sanction. For example, the sanction screen on the Welfare-to-Work Caseload Management System (WTWCMS) indicates that an individual had one prior SNAP E&T sanction which was imposed on November 1, 2012. The worker must not include this SNAP sanction since it was initiated between August 3, 2009, and December 14, 2012, when determining the SNAP sanction progression. In this example, the worker would use a SNAP individual reason code of "WE1 (Failure to Comply with Employment Requirements-1st Occurrence)" to impose the current SNAP E&T sanction.

WTWCMS includes a note to remind users of the requirement to not consider SNAP E&T sanctions initiated between August 3, 2009, and December 14, 2012, when determining the progression of any future SNAP E&T sanction. NYC-WMS was also annotated to reflect this requirement.

For more information on the SNAP conciliation process and disregarding SNAP E&T sanctions during the period identified above, please see 14-ADM-06.

Questions regarding SNAP E&T sanctions should be discussed with your district's OTDA Employment Services Advisor.