

DATE: August 1, 2016

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Staff Development

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

SUBJECT: Redesigned Common Benefit Identification Card (CBIC)

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2016

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On January 22, 2016, districts were advised of an upcoming change to the appearance of the Common Benefit Identification Card (CBIC) in GIS 16 TA/DC006.

On **August 1, 2016**, the redesigned CBIC will begin to be issued to new applicants and recipients who request a card replacement at the two Over the Counter Card sites in New York City (NYC).

The new card design will begin to be used for new and replacement cards issued by mail to cardholders statewide in early to mid-September 2016.

The redesigned cards will be issued for new recipients and for recipients who request a card replacement. OTDA will not be issuing mass card replacements.

Cardholders should be advised that their current card is valid and can continue to be used to access their benefits. No replacement card is needed unless the current card is damaged, lost or stolen.

While the appearance of the card is changing, the way in which the card functions is not changing.

OTDA has included language about the new card design in the notices that will be issued to all SNAP recipients in August 2016 regarding the October 1, 2016 Thrifty Food Plan changes. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is informing all SNAP merchants about this change. The New York State Department of Health is informing health care providers and pharmacies.