

DATE: February 3, 2017

TO: Subscribers

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

FROM: Jeffrey Gaskell, Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Employment and Income Support Programs

SUBJECT: Changes to AIDS/HIV Definition That Affect Eligibility for the Emergency
Shelter Allowance

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Temporary Assistance Bureau at (518) 474-9344

Social Services Districts (SSDs) were previously advised that individuals applying for an Emergency Shelter Allowance, as described in 09-ADM-03: *“Change to the AIDS/HIV-related Illness Emergency Shelter Allowance”* and 18 NYCRR 352.3(k), must have a medical diagnosis of AIDS or HIV-related illness as defined from time-to-time by the AIDS Institute of the State Department of Health (DOH), to be eligible for an Emergency Shelter Allowance.

On June 24, 2016, the AIDS Institute of the New York State DOH revised the definition of “AIDS or HIV-related illness” to include all individuals who have a laboratory confirmed HIV diagnosis. With the release of DOH’s expanded definition, individuals with a laboratory confirmed HIV diagnosis are eligible to apply for the Emergency Shelter Allowance.

SSDs must allow all individuals that have an HIV diagnosis to apply for an Emergency Shelter Allowance as prescribed in 18 NYCRR 352.3(k) and 09-ADM-03. All other guidance provided in 09-ADM-03 remains unchanged.