General Information System (GIS) Message

Section 1

Transmittal: 20 TA/DC020
Upstate and New York City

Date: March 27, 2020

To: Subscribers

Suggested Distribution: Commissioners, SNAP Directors, Fraud Directors

From: OTDA Bureau of Audit and Quality Improvement

Subject: Suspension of Treasury Offset Program (TOP) Offsets

Effective Date: Immediately

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Section 2

The purpose of this GIS is to notify social services districts (districts) of the temporary suspension of offsets for the Treasury Offset Program (TOP). In response to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the declaration of a State disaster emergency (Executive Order 202, March 7, 2020), the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), with guidance from USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), has made the decision to temporarily suspend all TOP offsets. This suspension impacts delinquent SNAP debts. All claims that are currently active in TOP will be inactivated and no additional claims will become active in TOP during the suspension period.

OTDA will not be mailing 60 Day Letters or processing new review requests during this period. Any district that currently has outstanding review requests due will receive an extension on the standard 30-day deadline.

Please note that any payments (Expungements, Recoupments or Cash payments) made to claims during this period should still be posted and recorded in the Cash Management System (CAMS), as these balance adjustments will continue to be recorded through the TOP program.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Bach at: Stephen.Bach@otda.ny.gov.