



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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General Information System (GIS) Message

Section 1

Transmittal:	20 TA/DC033 Statewide- Upstate and New York City
Date:	April 21, 2020
To:	Subscribers
Suggested Distribution:	Commissioners, Temporary Assistance Directors, SNAP Directors, Employment Coordinators
From:	Jeffrey Gaskell, Deputy Commissioner Employment and Income Support Programs
Subject:	Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) Override Transactions due to COVID-19
Effective Date:	Immediately
Contact Information:	Employment and Advancement Services Bureau 518-486-6106 or otda.sm.eisp.eas@otda.ny.gov

Section 2

The purpose of this GIS is to inform social services districts (districts) that the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will conduct state-level overrides of individual records for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) to grant good cause for all ABAWDs who have an AB record (ABAWD month non-participating) for March 2020. This state-level action is in accordance with the guidance provided in [GIS 20 TA/DC016](#) instructing districts to grant good cause for individuals who fail to meet the ABAWD requirements in March 2020. Additionally, as described in [GIS 20 TA/DC021](#), due to the suspension of the ABAWD time limits beginning April 2020 and until the month following the end of the emergency declaration, OTDA will process overrides of individual records for all ABAWDs who have an AB record or an AX record (ABAWD exclusion), as described below.

For all ABAWD's that have an AB record (ABAWD month non-participating) for March 2020, OTDA will override the ABAWD tracking record with override reason code V (COVID-19 related override) displayed on the WTRK43 screen on the individual's Welfare Reporting and Tracking System (WRTS) record. The username of 03COVI will be displayed to help districts identify that the reason for the override for March 2020 is to grant good cause.

ABAWD's that have an AB record (ABAWD month non-participating) or an AX record (ABAWD exclusion) for each month during the period of the suspension of the ABAWD time limits beginning with the month of April 2020, will have the ABAWD tracking record overridden with a reason code V (COVID-19 related override) displayed on the WTRK43 screen on the individual's Welfare Reporting and Tracking System (WRTS) record. The username of 04COVI for April, 05COVI for May, and so on, for each month until the suspension ends will be displayed to help districts identify that the override is due to the temporary suspension of ABAWD requirements due to the COVID-19 crisis.