



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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General Information System (GIS) Message

Section 1

Transmittal:	21 TA/DC043 Upstate and New York City
Date:	June 24, 2021
To:	Subscribers
Suggested Distribution:	Commissioners, TA Directors, HEAP Coordinators, SNAP Directors, Employment Coordinators, Fair Hearing Officers, Staff Development Coordinators, WMS Coordinators
From:	Alison Maura, Director of Temporary Assistance and HEAP Employment and Income Support Programs
Subject:	Designation of Burma for Temporary Protected Status
Effective Date:	Immediately
Contact Information:	Temporary Assistance Bureau at: 518-474-9344 or: otda.sm.cees.tabureau@otda.ny.gov

Section 2

The purpose of this GIS message is to inform social services districts (districts) that on March 12, 2021 the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary designated Burma (Myanmar) for Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

TPS for Burmese Nationals

TPS can be extended to a country with conditions that fall into one or more of three statutory bases for designation: ongoing armed conflict, environmental disasters, or extraordinary and temporary conditions. The TPS designation for Burma became effective May 25, 2021 due to extraordinary and temporary conditions in Burma that prevent nationals from returning safely. If Burma's TPS designation is terminated in the future, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will issue guidance to districts regarding the change.

Districts are reminded that per [GIS 16 TA/DC053](#), OTDA recognizes non-citizens with TPS as Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) for the purposes of Safety Net Assistance (SNA) eligibility. If otherwise eligible, non-citizens with TPS can receive SNA. Further guidance can be found in [GIS 18 TA/DC042](#). Non-citizens with TPS are ineligible for Family Assistance (FA), the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The following is a list of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) documents Burmese nationals granted TPS may present to districts:

- Form I-766, Employment Authorization Document (EAD), with a category code of A12, or
- Form I-797, Notice of Action, that shows the approval of an EAD with a category code of A12, or

- Form I-797, Notice of Action, indicating the approval of Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, or
- Any other authoritative USCIS document indicating TPS granted.

Guidance and Questions

Districts may refer to the [LDSS-4579](#): “Non-Citizen Eligibility Desk Aid” for SNA eligibility information pertaining to non-citizens with TPS. [GIS 16 TA/DC053](#) and [GIS 18 TA/DC042](#) also include guidance on determining SNA eligibility for non-citizens with TPS. For any Temporary Assistance (TA) related questions, please contact the OTDA TA Bureau at: (518) 474-9344 or by email: otda.sm.cees.tabureau@otda.ny.gov.