



# Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

DANIEL W. TIETZ  
Commissioner

BARBARA C. GUINN  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

## General Information System (GIS) Message

---

### Section 1

---

<b>Transmittal:</b>	22 TA/DC056 Upstate and New York City
<b>Date:</b>	June 08, 2022
<b>To:</b>	Subscribers
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, TA Directors, SNAP Directors, Employment Coordinators, WMS Coordinators, HEAP Coordinators
<b>From:</b>	Valerie Figueroa, Deputy Commissioner Employment and Income Support Programs
<b>Subject:</b>	Treatment of the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant program Grants
<b>Effective Date:</b>	Immediately
<b>Contact Information:</b>	TA Questions - Temporary Assistance Bureau: (518) 474-9344 or <a href="mailto:otda.sm.cees.tabureau@otda.ny.gov">otda.sm.cees.tabureau@otda.ny.gov</a> Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Questions – SNAP Bureau 518-473-1469 or <a href="mailto:otda.sm.cees.snap@otda.ny.gov">otda.sm.cees.snap@otda.ny.gov</a> Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Questions – HEAP Bureau 518-473-0332 or <a href="mailto:NYSHEAP@otda.ny.gov">NYSHEAP@otda.ny.gov</a>

---

### Section 2

The purpose of this GIS message is to provide guidance to social services districts (districts) regarding treatment of grant payments made available through the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant program, administered through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), for purposes of Temporary Assistance (TA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) eligibility determinations.

The New York State OCFS utilized funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act to provide licensed and registered child care providers an unprecedented opportunity and investment to effectively stabilize the child care sector. This grant assists child care providers, including in-home providers, that incurred substantial financial losses in order for them to continue to provide services during the pandemic. Under ARPA authority, providers are able to use Stabilization Grant funds for costs that were incurred after January 31, 2020, as long as those uses were made in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, in any of the categories indicated in the OCFS guidelines, provided those expenses were not previously reimbursed by other funding or programs, including NYS CARES child care grants. These funds can be used for things such as rent/mortgage obligations, personal protective equipment, personnel costs, and facility improvements, among other things. There is also a provision to pay child care providers for up to 24 days of retroactive child care absences. For a full list of allowable uses and more information regarding the FFY 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant Program, please visit the OCFS website at [Child Care Stabilization Grant | Contracts, Grants and RFPs | OCFS \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ocfs.ny.gov/Child-Care-Stabilization-Grant-Contracts-Grants-and-RFPs).

## **TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE (TA)**

Individuals who are applying for, or in receipt of TA may be impacted by the receipt of these benefits, especially in-home and family-based child care providers. In accordance with NYCRR §352.16, grants made available through the FFY 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant Program that are earmarked for a specific purpose that does not include reimbursement of income must be excluded as income and disregarded as a resource for the purposes of determining TA eligibility for both emergency and ongoing TA. This includes Family Assistance (FA), Safety Net Assistance (SNA), Emergency Assistance to Needy Families with Children (EAF), Emergency Safety Net Assistance (ESNA), and Emergency Assistance for Adults (EAA). A note should be made in the case record regarding the individual's receipt of these payments.

If these payments are received retroactively, it would be excluded as income and resources and are, therefore, not subject to the lump sum provisions.

Grants made available through the FFY 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant Program to reimburse the loss of income, including retroactive absence reimbursements, are considered income that cannot be excluded and disregarded as a resource when determining eligibility for both emergency and ongoing TA. Verification of the reimbursement of income, including retroactive absence reimbursements, must be documented in the case record regarding the individual's receipt of these payments and budgeted in accordance with regular TA rules.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)**

As permitted under 7 CFR § 273.9, for the purpose of determining eligibility and the calculation of SNAP benefits, any grant funds received under the FFY 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant Program should be excluded as income consistent with the direction provided in the previous section for Temporary Assistance (TA).

Unless otherwise exempt, any such payments received under this program would be considered countable resources in the month received and in subsequent months as long as they remain liquid and readily available to the household (such as cash on hand, amounts in any account in a financial institution that are readily available to the household including money in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks, or bonds).

## **HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HEAP)**

The payment(s) provided to individuals under the FFY 2020-2021 Child Care Stabilization Grant Program will be excluded as countable income for HEAP eligibility determinations and must not be counted in the HEAP budget. Payment(s) received under this program will be excluded from the HEAP household's income when determining eligibility for Regular HEAP, Emergency, Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement (HERR), Heating Equipment Clean and Tune (C&T), and Cooling Assistance benefits. Any remaining balance from these payment(s) are not considered a liquid resource for the Emergency and HERR benefit components.