TRANSITIONAL FOOD STAMP BENEFITS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 1. Is an open/shut WFFA case entitled to TFS? Yes.
- 2. Is a Benefit Diversion case considered terminated WFFA entitled to TFS? No.
- 3. In a WFFA case of five, Mom and four children, CPS removes all four children from the home. WFFA terminated due to no eligible children in the home. No one applies for FS for the children. How many members are included in the TFS case? <u>The TFS case is a HH of five.</u>
- 4. If the client is placed on TFS and the client subsequently reapplies for WFFA and is approved, does TFS continue for the entire five months? <u>Yes.</u>
- 5. If the FS case is in an uncertified suspense month and WFFA terminates, is the case eligible for TFS, or is this considered an inactive case? <u>Case is eligible for Transitional.</u>
- 6. Timely SR case with WFFA income was recertified for six months. Prior to the end of the current CP, WFFA ends. If you place on transitional for the next five months, is this in essence shortening the new CP by one month? <u>This is not considered shortening the certification</u> <u>period. The case gets a new certification period in a new category.</u>
- 7. A household cannot receive TFS if WFFA case closes due to a sanction. What about situations where WFFA closes for other reasons, but there is an existing WFFA sanction? For example, WFFA is sanctioned 25% because children are not immunized. Client request termination of WFFA. If the case closed, not due to a sanction but there was a sanction in place, do we transfer the case to TFS? <u>Yes.</u>
- 8. If a transitional case moves during the TFS period, what is the procedure for handling the NOE when it arrives? <u>Mail to appropriate address if FSU is still in the county</u>. The old county is still the county of record, and FSIS will send them the NOE even if it has the new address on it, right? <u>Yes.</u> If the client has reported the move but has not applied in the new county, do we send the NOE to the new county? <u>Yes. The new county should revise the county address information where the client should reapply and send the notice.</u>
- 9. If a CE suspended WFFA FS case becomes eligible to go to TFS but is still over income even after removing the WF payment, do we close the case rather than move to TFS? <u>Yes, close the case. The case is no longer categorically eligible once the WFFA check is terminated.</u>
- If TFS case wants to apply for regular benefits, what is the procedure? Example: TFS case of Mom and child receiving TFS with no income in the budget. Sister's three kids move in on June 6 (with no income) because sister is in prison. Client reports new members on June 8. Does she: (1) request termination from TFS; (2) apply for regular benefits the same day; (3) get approved effective July? What about a supplement for June to feed new HH members? <u>When regular FS case is approved for July, issue a supplement for additional members for June. Document the reason for supplement.</u>
- 11. A training group requested consideration of a new closure code for transition from TFS back to regular benefits within the TFS period for tracking purposes. <u>To avoid creating a new code</u>, <u>use Code 03, Client Requested Withdrawal. The client must request termination in order to stop TFS.</u>
- 12. FS worker is notified on May 27th that WFFA is terminating effective May 31. Does the worker have ten days to get this case into transitional? <u>Yes</u>.
 Policy says to evaluate the HH for a supplement if the decrease in WFFA is \$50 or more. Since June is not part of the transitional period in this case, do we consider any new income in determining if a supplement is due? <u>Since the case is not considered TFS until July 1, consider new income in determining if a supplement if a supplement is due for June.</u>

If the case is not acted on until June, could we supplement June and consider it the first month of the transitional period? No. The case only becomes TFS when the TC6 is completed for a future month.

13. If the work registration code is "E" when the case goes to TFS, what work registration code is to be used? Does an edit require the "E" to be removed when the WFFA income is removed? When removing the WFFA income, you must remove the WFFA case number. The work registration code can remain "E." Do you plan to add a specific work registration exemption code for the Transitional cases if the

Do you plan to add a specific work registration exemption code for the Transitional cases if the codes are left alone (boyfriend might still show as "R")? Is this something that will be an issue in E&T reviews? Not if case is on TFS since TFS policy does not have work requirements.

14. When a case goes to TFS, policy states that any pending NOAA cannot be processed. Should this situation also be added to Section 635 as a condition when the NOAA can be voided? <u>Yes,</u> <u>it will be added.</u>