TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES 
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT, 
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS, AND CASE MANAGERS 
FROM: LASHERRA AYALA, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 
RE: MARYLAND AUTOMATED BENEFITS SYSTEM (MABS) 
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION CLEARANCES SYSTEM OUTAGE 
(9/16/2020 THRU 9/20/2020), AND TRANSITION TO BEACON 2.0 

PROGRAM AFFECTED: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP), TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE (TCA), REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE (RCA), AND TEMPORARY DISABILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TDAP), MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA) 

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF OPERATIONS 

SUMMARY: 

The Maryland Automated Benefit System (MABS) will be offline from September 16 at 5 p.m. to September 20 at 11:59 p.m. to move the data from the legacy mainframe to the new BEACON 2.0 system. 

REQUIRED ACTION: 

Staff who are unable to run the MABS clearances for members in the household who are ages 16 years and or older during the outage should take the following actions: 

● Narrate “Unable to access MABS due to system outage.” 
● Send a 1052 requesting income verification 
● For Statewide Process Management (SPM) Protocol: 
  ○ Set a 745 alert prior to the SPM September 23, 2020 reassignment
For TCA Protocol:
  - Set a 745 alert with a due date that matches the due date of the 1052

Steps have been taken to ensure all Local Department of Social Services staff gain access to the new BEACON 2.0 (MABS replacement). LDSS staff information has been previously obtained by LDSS management to request access to BEACON 2.0.

LDSS staff must:
  - Execute an electronic confidentiality form by visiting this “Partner State Agency Form” to provide their individual details.
  - This form is needed to ensure staff obtain access to BEACON once the system is operational.
  - Once access is gained to BEACON, staff must pull BEACON clearances for all cases impacted by the system outage.

INQUIRIES:
Please direct policy questions to FIA Policy by completing the FIA Policy Information Request Form found on Knowledge Base as shown in the screenshot below.

For systems questions, please email fia.bsdm@maryland.gov.

c: DHS Executive Staff
   Constituent Services
   DHS Help Desk
   FIA Management Staff