



Rhode Island Department of Human Services
25 Howard Avenue Louis Pasteur Building #57 Cranston, RI 02920

September 17, 2018

Bonnie Brathwaite, Director
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
Northeast Regional office
10 Causeway Street
Boston, Ma 02222

Re: Overpayment Plan

Dear Director Brathwaite:

The State of Rhode Island has worked with our IES vendor to identify the number of potential interface matches that, had they been worked, may have affected an individual's eligibility. It's important to note that prior to the deployment of the worker inbox, the non-real-time interfaces were not available to workers for action. Given this, the next step is for the state to determine which of the non-real-time matches should have been processed as part of an individual's recertification or, for change reporters, should have been processed outside of the recertification process. The tables below indicate the status of the federally required interfaces:

Trading Partner	Interface	Interface Go Live date	Current Functionality
Social Security Administration (SSA)	Prisoner Match - Inbound	8/26/2017	Tasks are generated for workers to update the prisoner information from SSA in RIBridges and re-determine the eligibility.
Social Security Administration (SSA)	40 Quarters - Inbound	6/24/2017	Tasks are generated for workers to update the 40 quarters information in RIBridges and re-determine eligibility.
Department of Corrections	Incarceration verification	7/29/2017	Tasks are generated for workers to verify and update the State prisoner information.

Trading Partner	Interface	Interface Go Live date	Current Functionality
Social Security Administration (SSA)	Death Match	TBD	Not yet operational for immediate action in production however, manual action is being taken to process cases with a death match.
Administration for Children and Families (ACF)	National directory of new hires (NDNH)	4/15/2017	Tasks are generated for workers to review New Hire Information and determine if an individual may have a new income source which could lead to a change in eligibly.
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) - SAVE	Alien Status Verification (Steps 1, 2 and 3) *real-time interface	8/26/2017	Allows workers to perform an alien status verification during case processing in RIBridges if there is a match with USCIS.
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)	Electronic Disqualification Recipient Service (eDRS) *real-time interface	9/30/2017	Allows workers to enter a disqualification during case processing in RIBridges if there is a match with the eDRS.

*real-time interfaces operate in real-time or near real-time allowing workers to see matches during the processing of an application, recertification or change such that they would not be dependent on workers processing a task from the worker inbox.

The state is working with our IES vendor to continue this work, and achieve compliance according to the following timeline:

Finalize the list of cases that should have been updated based on a Federally required interface match with FNS	11/1/2018
Finalize the plan for updating eligibility for the aforementioned cases with FNS including a timeline for finalizing total overpayments	12/1/2018
Begin distribution of aforementioned cases to DHS workers for updating of eligibility and documentation of overpayment	12/1/2018
Finish case updates and produce the final total of overpayments to FNS for review	3/1/2019

The state is grateful to FNS for the technical assistance provided to date and will continue to work closely to finalize plans for remediation of any potential overpayment (noting that the state clearly understands that recoupment efforts should not be initiated).

Sincerely,



Courtney Hawkins
Director, RI DHS

cc: Matthew Henschel, Policy Team Lead, USDA, FNS
Maria Volpe, RI State Desk, USDA, FNS
Kimberly Brito, Deputy Director, RI DHS
Yvette Mendez, Deputy Director, RI DHS
Maureen Donnelly, Associate Director, Operations, RI DHS