

Policy Clarifications - Food Stamp
PFS13676506

Submitted: 4/9/07

Agency: CAOs

Citations:

Subject: Use of PA/FS 163

I still have a question regarding policy clarification [PFS-13547-506](#) revised 3/21/07. The desk guide was revised changing the reference from a PA162 to a PA163 under the Mail-Ins or Compass Applications not eligible for EFS. However, under both columns for not eligible for EFS (walk ins and mail ins or COMPASS) they state to send the 163 informing the applicant of ineligibility for EFS after conducting the interview. Policy at [506.5](#), [577.8](#) and [PFS-13568-506](#) all state that the 163 is not required when the applicant is informed of their ineligibility for EFS.

The desk guide continues to be misleading since after conducting the interview it states to provide the 163. If the worker is conducting the interview wouldn't they be advising the applicant of their ineligibility during the interview therefore not requiring the use of the 163?

Since an interview is required prior to issuing EFS wouldn't the worker always be able to inform the applicant of their ineligibility? Unless the worker conducts an interview and after speaking with the applicant determines them ineligible for EFS it would seem that the 163 wouldn't be needed.

Response By: Denise Hoffman

Date: 5/14/07

Although the PA/FS 163 is not required based on the policy found in FSH 506.5, 577.8 and PFS 13568-506, CAOs were purposely encouraged to use the form to document the fact that expedited FS were discussed and denied. This new process eliminates advocates' concern that expedited issuance denial was not discussed.