

Identification Number: EM-17014 SEN

Effective Date: 05/12/2017

Intended Audience: All RCs/ARCs/ADs/FOs/TSCs/PSCs/OCO/OCO-CSTs/ODARHQ

Originating Office: DCBFQM/OFPO

Title: Treasury Offset Program (TOP) Policy Change

Type: One Time Only EM – Emergency Message --- **SENSITIVE**

Program: Title II (RSI), Disability, Title VII (SVB), and XVI (SSI)

Link to Reference: See [References](#) at the end of this EM.

Retention Date: November 8, 2017

A. Purpose

This emergency message (EM) provides information about the collection of certain Title II, Title VIII, and Title XVI delinquent debts via the Treasury Offset Program (TOP). Effective immediately, we will not refer to TOP debts with a delinquency date of May 19, 2002 or earlier. Field office and other staff do not need to take any action at this time because implementation of this policy change is automated.

B. Policy

Effective immediately, we will not refer to TOP Title II, Title VIII, or Title XVI debts that have a delinquency date of May 19, 2002 or earlier. There is no manual action necessary to prevent TOP selection or referral because TOP selection is automated. Rather, our automated External Collection Operation (ECO) system no longer selects these debts for external collection. Debts with a delinquency date after May 19, 2002 remain eligible for TOP referral.

Important: We will issue further instructions to issue refunds to debtors with a delinquency date of May 19, 2002 or earlier and a 10 or more year delinquent debt that we previously offset via TOP. It is important that you do not discuss refunds with debtors or take any action to refund a debtor until we publish additional instructions in a future EM.

If you receive an inquiry about these debts, please advise the debtor(s) that we are developing procedures to address these debts.

C. References

GN 02201.029	The Treasury Offset Program (TOP)
MS DMS 014.007	ECO Master Query
GN 02210.214	Debtor Willing to Repay
GN 02201.000	General Information Title II, Title XVI, and Title XVIII Overpayments – Part I
GN 02215.000	Methods of Recovery for Title II, Title XVI, and Title XVIII Overpayments - Part II
GN 02250.000	Waiver Provisions for Title II and XVIII Overpayments Table of Contents
SI 02260.000	Waiver Provisions for SSI Overpayments Table of Contents
TC 26001.000	Title II Overpayments Table of Contents
TC 26010.000	Title XVI Overpayments- (CSRs) Table of Contents