

# Policy Clarifications - SNAP PFS15675506

Submitted: 04/04/11

Agency: CAOs

Citations:

**Subject: Expedited SNAP Benefits – Heat and Eat and the SUA**

Will the Automated Heat and Eat Initiative ([OPS110202](#)) that became effective February 22, 2011 change the way the SUA is applied when reviewing a SNAP application to determine entitlement to expedited service?

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**Response By: Division of Federal Programs and Program Management**

**Date:04/05/11**

When determining entitlement to expedited services, the appropriate SUA is applied. To know which SUA is appropriate, the CAO must consider whether a household:

- incurs a heating or cooling cost,
- received assistance under the LIHEAP program or
- **is reasonably certain to receive a LIHEAP payment**

*[See SNAPH 506.67](#), Expedited Service - Shelter Expenses and its reference to SNAPH 560.831, Four Mandatory Utility Allowances.*

Households that are eligible to be enrolled in Heat and Eat are automatically issued a one-time LIHEAP benefit that entitles them to the HSUA until September 30 of the year in which they were enrolled.

Therefore, households that apply for SNAP and do not meet any of the exceptions to Heat and Eat eligibility **are reasonably certain to receive a LIHEAP payment** and must have the HSUA applied when determining entitlement to expedited services.