



DATE: September 13, 2024

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM #24-09-03

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Mass Grant Changes

TO: Executive Directors

FROM: Robert Hixson
Director
Bureau of Operations

PURPOSE

To release changes to SNAP that are effective **October 1, 2024**, in the following areas:

- Heat Standard Utility Allowance (SUA)
- Non-Heat Limited Utility Allowance
- Non-Heat SUA
- Maximum Shelter Deduction
- Standard Deduction
- Homeless Shelter Allowance
- Income Eligibility Standards
- Maximum Thrifty Food Plan
- Resource Limits

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, has revised the limits for the following: Heat SUA, Non-Heat Limited Utility Allowance, Non-Heat SUA, Maximum Shelter Deduction, Standard Deduction, Homeless Shelter Allowance, Income Eligibility Standards, the Maximum Thrifty Food Plan, and Resource Limits.

There is no change to the Telephone Allowance, Minimum Benefit, Pennsylvania Combined Application Project (PA CAP) Benefit Amounts, and Reporting Threshold for October 2024.

The following amounts must be used when computing SNAP benefits beginning October 1, 2024:									
Minimum Benefit	\$23								
Standard Income Deduction Based on Household Size	<table> <tr> <td>1-3 persons</td> <td>\$204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 persons</td> <td>\$217</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 persons</td> <td>\$254</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6+ persons</td> <td>\$291</td> </tr> </table>	1-3 persons	\$204	4 persons	\$217	5 persons	\$254	6+ persons	\$291
1-3 persons	\$204								
4 persons	\$217								
5 persons	\$254								
6+ persons	\$291								
Heating SUA	\$758								
Non-Heating SUA	\$402								
Telephone Allowance	\$ 34								
Limited SUA	\$ 72								
Maximum Shelter Deduction	\$712								
Homeless Shelter Deduction	\$190								
Reporting Requirement Threshold									
Reporting Requirement Threshold for Change Reporting Households	\$125								
Asset Limits									
Non-Categorically Eligible Households with an Elderly or Disabled Household Member **	\$4,500								
Non-Categorically Eligible Households with a Disqualified or Sanctioned Household Member	\$3,000								

**The asset limit for elderly or disabled households also serves as the threshold for excess lottery or gambling winnings for all applicants and recipients.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS OCTOBER 2024

The revised values will be added to the appropriate Electronic Client Information System (eCIS) reference tables. Most households participating in SNAP as of the close of business on September 13, 2024, will have their SNAP allotments adjusted automatically through the Mass Change process. This change will be reflected in the October 2024 benefit issuance. ECIS will automatically calculate the SNAP benefits for all openings after September 16, 2024, using the current figures for September and the new figures for October.

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>100 percent Poverty Level</u>	<u>130 percent Poverty Level</u>	<u>165 percent Poverty Level</u>	<u>200 percent Poverty Level</u>	<u>Max Thrifty Food Plan</u>
1	\$1,255	\$1,632	\$2,071	\$ 2,510	\$ 292
2	\$1,704	\$2,215	\$2,811	\$ 3,408	\$ 536
3	\$2,152	\$2,798	\$3,551	\$ 4,304	\$ 768
4	\$2,600	\$3,380	\$4,290	\$ 5,200	\$ 975
5	\$3,049	\$3,963	\$5,030	\$ 6,098	\$1,158
6	\$3,497	\$4,546	\$5,770	\$ 6,994	\$1,390
7	\$3,945	\$5,129	\$6,510	\$ 7,890	\$1,536
8	\$4,394	\$5,712	\$7,249	\$ 8,788	\$1,756
9	\$4,843	\$6,295	\$7,989	\$ 9,686	\$1,976
10	\$5,292	\$6,878	\$8,729	\$10,584	\$2,196
Each Additional Member	\$ 449	\$ 583	\$ 740	\$ 898	\$ 220

Reminder: As of October 1, 2022, the income limit for Expanded Categorically Eligible households was increased to 200 percent from 160 percent of the poverty level.

Client Notice

Information on the Mass Grant Change will be available via press releases and social media updates.

PA CAP

There will not be a Mass Grant Change for PA CAP budgets. The PA CAP amounts will remain the same:

Household Income with Cost-of-Living Adjustment	Shelter Costs below \$196 Benefit Amount	Shelter Cost at or above \$196 Benefit Amount
\$965.10	\$126	\$166
\$985.10	\$120	\$160

Case Alerts

The County Assistance Office (CAO) worker will have approximately **seven** workdays in which to take appropriate action and clear the alerts listed below after the Mass Grant Change and before the deadline for the October benefits change for the first digit cases.

REMINDER: It is very important that all cases are completed before the Mass Grant Change runs on September 13, 2024, or all information will be lost, and the CAO will have to re-enter all information for the case.

1. SNAP Budgets with an Active Override Record - #86

During the SNAP Mass Change process, the system will check all SNAP budgets to determine if an active override exists. If an override exists, a case alert will be automatically set for the affected SNAP budget. The Mass Change process will automatically recalculate the net income for the override budget but will not change the existing override benefit amount.

Caseload management will create Case Alert No. 86, type MCEX, Override Exists, Review Due to Mass Change, for each override budget. Alert No. 86 will be created after the Mass Change runs. It will have an immediate due date and must be worker-cleared. CAOs are to review these records and take appropriate action.

CAOs are to review identified records to determine the appropriateness of the override benefit amount.

2. SNAP Budgets that Fail Mass Change - #30

Budgets that fail the gross or net income tests and budgets with a person count of zero on CQFBNF will be posted to an alert No. 30, type MCEX. CAOs are to review these records and re-run eligibility.

REMINDER: SNAP budgets that were in termination status before the Mass Grant Change and reinstated after the change must be checked to verify that any benefits issued before October 1, 2024, were issued using the old SNAP values.

NEXT STEPS

1. Implement these changes effective October 1, 2024.
2. Review case alerts and take appropriate action.
3. This Operations Memorandum will become obsolete when incorporated into the SNAP Handbook.