



Department of  
Job and Family Services

Mike DeWine, Governor

Kimberly Hall, Director

August 20, 2020  
Food Assistance Change Transmittal No. 73  
Effective October 1, 2020

TO: Food Assistance Certification Handbook Holders

FROM: Kimberly Hall, Director

SUBJECT: October 1, 2020 Mass Change

**Previous Policy:** Pursuant to provisions of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) provides States with annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The standard utility allowance, limited utility allowance, single standard utility allowance, single standard telephone allowance, excess shelter deduction, resource standards, maximum monthly SNAP allotments, net income standards (100% of poverty), gross income standards (130% of poverty), and separate assistance group standards for elderly and disabled assistance groups only (165% of poverty) are all subject to change based on the annual adjustments the State receives from FNS.

**New policy:** For federal fiscal year 2021, which begins on October 1, 2020, FNS has determined that the maximum monthly allotments will increase. Additionally, the deduction amounts and income guidelines have been adjusted and are listed below. All the utility allowances have increased. The following amounts are increasing effective October 1, 2020: (a) the standard deduction for AG size greater than 3 people; (b) excess shelter deduction; (c) maximum homeless shelter deduction; and (d) the gross income standard, net income standard, and separate assistance group standards for elderly and disabled assistance groups eligibility standards. The resource standards remain unchanged.

**Standard Utility Allowance**  
\$553

**Limited Utility Allowance**  
\$362

**Single Standard Utility Allowance**  
\$80

**Single Telephone Allowance**  
\$40

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Columbus, OH 43215  
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**Standard Deduction**

\$167 for an AG size of 1 - 3 persons;  
\$181 for an AG size of 4 persons;  
\$212 for an AG size of 5 persons; and  
\$243 for an AG size of 6 or more persons

**Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction**

\$586

**Maximum Homeless Shelter Deduction**

\$156

**Maximum Resource Limit**

\$2,250

**Maximum Resource Limit for Households with at Least  
One Aged or Disabled Member**

\$3,500

**Maximum Food Assistance Allotments**

<b>AG Size</b>	<b>Maximum Allotment</b>
1	\$204
2	\$374
3	\$535
4	\$680
5	\$807
6	\$969
7	\$1,071
8	\$1,224
each additional	+\$153
Minimum Allotment	\$16

**Net Income Standards (100% of poverty)**

<b>AG Size</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>
1	\$1,064
2	\$1,437
3	\$1,810
4	\$2,184
5	\$2,557
6	\$2,930

7	\$3,304
8	\$3,667
each additional	+\$374

**Gross Income Standards (130% of poverty)**

AG Size	Maximum Income
1	\$1,383
2	\$1,868
3	\$2,353
4	\$2,839
5	\$3,324
6	\$3,809
7	\$4,295
8	\$4,780
each additional	+\$486

**Separate AG Income Standards -- Elderly and Disabled AGs Only (165% of poverty)**

AG Size	Maximum Income
1	\$1,755
2	\$2,371
3	\$2,987
4	\$3,603
5	\$4,219
6	\$4,835
7	\$5,451
8	\$6,067
each additional	+\$616

**Implementation:** The changes for the deductions and income guidelines will be implemented in Ohio Benefits via a mass change beginning August 21st and will run through August 27th. An exception report will be created for all cases which Ohio Benefits cannot update automatically. The eligibility worker will be required to run the Eligibility Determination/Benefit Calculation (ED/BC), then save and accept the results for those cases to implement these changes. Each assistance group affected by this change will receive a notice with the new amount of benefits they will receive.