



August 21, 2023

Food Assistance Change Transmittal No. 97

TO: Food Assistance Certification Handbook Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: October 1, 2023 Mass Change

Previous Policy: Pursuant to provisions of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 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, monthly net income standards (100% of poverty), monthly gross income standards (130% of poverty), and monthly 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: The Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), which is developed by the USDA to estimate the cost of a healthy diet across various price points, is used to determine the maximum SNAP allotments. The new SNAP maximum allotments will be effective beginning October 1, 2023.

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, 2023: (a) the standard deduction for AG sizes of 4 or more 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 following amounts remain unchanged effective October 1, 2023: The maximum resource standards; the minimum benefit allotment; and the standard deduction for an AG size of 1-3 persons.

Standard Utility Allowance
\$724
Limited Utility Allowance
\$453
Single Standard Utility Allowance
\$102
Single Telephone Allowance
\$45

Standard Deduction

\$198 for an AG size of 1 - 3 persons;
\$208 for an AG size of 4 persons;
\$244 for an AG size of 5 persons; and
\$279 for an AG size of 6 or more persons

Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction

\$672

Maximum Homeless Shelter Deduction

\$179

Maximum Resource Limit

\$2,750

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

\$4,250

Maximum Food Assistance Allotments

AG Size	Maximum Allotment
1	\$291
2	\$535
3	\$766
4	\$973
5	\$1,155
6	\$1,386
7	\$1,532
8	\$1,751
each additional	+\$219
Minimum Allotment	\$23

Net Income Standards (100% of poverty)

AG Size	Maximum Income
1	\$1,215
2	\$1,644
3	\$2,072
4	\$2,500
5	\$2,929
6	\$3,357
7	\$3,785
8	\$4,214
each additional	+\$429

Gross Income Standards (130% of poverty)

AG Size	Maximum Income
1	\$1,580
2	\$2,137
3	\$2,694
4	\$3,250
5	\$3,807
6	\$4,364

7	\$4,921
8	\$5,478
each additional	+\$557

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

AG Size	Maximum Income
1	\$2,005
2	\$2,712
3	\$3,419
4	\$4,125
5	\$4,832
6	\$5,539
7	\$6,246
8	\$6,952
each additional	+\$707

Implementation: The changes for the deductions and income guidelines will be implemented in Ohio Benefits via a mass change beginning August 25th and will run through August 28th. 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.