



DATE: September 01, 2026

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Quality Control
(QC) Error Tolerance Threshold for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 – QC Policy
Memo 26-05

TO: All SNAP Regional Offices
All SNAP State Agencies

The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, requires the SNAP QC system to use a tolerance level to set a monetary threshold for determining which QC errors are included in the calculation of payment error rates. This threshold is adjusted annually to correspond with changes in the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP). Following Congress' requirement and based on changes in the TFP, the threshold will increase from \$58 in FY 2026 to \$59 for FY 2027.

For FY 2027, all State agencies must use \$59 as the QC tolerance level. Errors less than or equal to the threshold must be excluded from payment error rate calculations unless associated with a determination that the household was ineligible for the sample month's benefits. However, all errors, regardless of amount, must be reported to the Food and Nutrition Administration and to the appropriate State agency units that determine supplemental issuances or claims in accordance with existing policy.

The SNAP QC error tolerance threshold public website will be updated with this information. That website can be found here: <https://www.fna.usda.gov/snap/qc/ett>.

Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law, unless expressly authorized by statute or incorporated into a contract. USDA may not cite, use, or rely on any guidance that is not available through their guidance portal, except to establish historical facts.

State agencies with questions regarding the adjustment should contact their respective Regional Office representatives.

Sincerely,

SHELLY
PIERCE

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Date: 2026.09.01
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For Ronald Ward
Acting Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Food and Nutrition Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture