



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

AUG 11 2015

SUBJECT: SNAP – Fiscal Year 2016 Cost-of-Living Adjustments

TO: All Regional Directors
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

This memorandum provides the fiscal year (FY) 2016 Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) maximum allotments, income eligibility standards, and deductions. Under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, COLAs are effective as of October 1, 2015.

Attached are FY 2016 COLAs for the 48 contiguous States and D.C., Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Maximum allotments will remain unchanged for the 48 States and D.C., Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For a family of four receiving a maximum allotment, benefits will continue to be \$649. Maximum allotments will increase for Alaska and Hawaii.

The shelter cap values increased by \$14 to \$504 for the 48 States and D.C. The shelter cap values for Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands also increased. The minimum standard deduction for household sizes 1 through 3 is unchanged at \$155 a month for the 48 States and D.C. Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands experienced increases in their standard deduction amounts for larger households. The minimum standard deduction for household sizes 1 through 5 in Alaska will decrease by \$1 to \$265.

The resource limit for households will remain unchanged for the 48 States and the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands at \$2,250. The resource limit for households where at least one person is age 60 or older, or is disabled, will remain unchanged at \$3,250.

Regional Offices should ensure that their States are apprised of these changes. State agencies with questions regarding these adjustments should contact their respective Regional Office representatives. Regional Office staff with questions should contact Sasha Gersten-Paal at Sasha.Gersten-Paal@fns.usda.gov.

Lizbeth Silberman
Director
Program Development Division

Attachment(s)

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**Net Monthly Income Eligibility Standards
(100 Percent of Poverty Level)**

Household Size	48 States, DC, Guam, Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$981	\$1,227	\$1,130
2	\$1,328	\$1,660	\$1,528
3	\$1,675	\$2,094	\$1,926
4	\$2,021	\$2,527	\$2,325
5	\$2,368	\$2,960	\$2,723
6	\$2,715	\$3,394	\$3,121
7	\$3,061	\$3,827	\$3,520
8	\$3,408	\$4,260	\$3,918
Each additional member	\$347	\$434	\$399

**Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards
(130 Percent of Poverty Level)**

Household Size	48 States, DC, Guam, Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$1,276	\$1,595	\$1,468
2	\$1,726	\$2,158	\$1,986
3	\$2,177	\$2,722	\$2,504
4	\$2,628	\$3,285	\$3,022
5	\$3,078	\$3,848	\$3,540
6	\$3,529	\$4,412	\$4,058
7	\$3,980	\$4,975	\$4,575
8	\$4,430	\$5,538	\$5,093
Each additional member	\$451	\$564	\$518

**Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards For Households
Where Elderly Disabled Are A Separate Household
(165 Percent of Poverty Level)**

Household Size	48 States, DC, Guam, Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$1,619	\$2,024	\$1,864
2	\$2,191	\$2,739	\$2,521
3	\$2,763	\$3,454	\$3,178
4	\$3,335	\$4,169	\$3,835
5	\$3,907	\$4,884	\$4,493
6	\$4,479	\$5,599	\$5,150
7	\$5,051	\$6,314	\$5,807
8	\$5,623	\$7,029	\$6,464
Each additional member	\$572	\$715	\$658

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.

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY ALLOTMENTS
OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

MAXIMUM SNAP ALLOTMENTS

Household Size	48 States and DC
1	\$194
2	\$357
3	\$511
4	\$649
5	\$771
6	\$925
7	\$1,022
8	\$1,169
Each additional person	\$146

Household Size	Guam
1	\$287
2	\$526
3	\$753
4	\$957
5	\$1,136
6	\$1,364
7	\$1,507
8	\$1,723
Add on	\$215

Household Size	Virgin Islands
1	\$250
2	\$459
3	\$657
4	\$835
5	\$991
6	\$1,189
7	\$1,315
8	\$1,503
Add on	\$188

Household Size	Alaska		
	Urban	Rural 1	Rural 2
1	\$237	\$302	\$368
2	\$435	\$554	\$675
3	\$622	\$794	\$966
4	\$790	\$1,008	\$1,227
5	\$939	\$1,197	\$1,457
6	\$1,127	\$1,437	\$1,749
7	\$1,245	\$1,588	\$1,933
8	\$1,423	\$1,815	\$2,209
Add on	\$178	\$227	\$276

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Household Size	Hawaii
1	\$343
2	\$630
3	\$902
4	\$1,146
5	\$1,361
6	\$1,633
7	\$1,805
8	\$2,063
Add on	\$258

**MINIMUM SNAP ALLOTMENTS
OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

Household Size	48 States and DC	Guam	U.S. Virgin Islands	Alaska			Hawaii
				Urban	Rural 1	Rural 2	
1 - 2	\$16	\$23	\$20	\$19	\$24	\$29	\$28

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
DEDUCTIONS
OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

STANDARD DEDUCTIONS

Area	Household Size				
	1 - 2	3	4	5	6+
48 States and DC	155	155	168	197	226
Alaska	265	265	265	265	282
Hawaii	219	219	219	226	259
Guam	312	312	336	394	451
Virgin Islands	137	139	168	197	226

MAXIMUM SHELTER DEDUCTIONS

Area	Maximum Amount
48 States and DC	504
Alaska	805
Hawaii	679
Guam	592
Virgin Islands	397