



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

August 29, 2019

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Quality Control (QC) Tolerance Level;
7 CFR 275.12(f)(2), and Update to FNS Handbook 310,
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
QC Policy Memo: 19-04

TO: All SNAP State Agencies
All Regional SNAP Directors
Food and Nutrition Service

SNAP's QC system uses a tolerance level to set the threshold for determining which errors are included in the national payment error rate calculation. For FY 2020, the tolerance threshold will remain at \$37. For FY 2020, all State agencies shall use \$37 as the QC tolerance level for excluding small errors. All errors, regardless of dollar amount, shall continue to be reported in accordance with existing policy.

Enclosed are page changes to the FNS Handbook 310 to include the FY 2020 QC tolerance level. Please replace the pages as indicated below.

PAGE CONTROL CHART

Remove Pages	Dated	Insert Pages	Dated
Cover	October 2018 Thru QC Policy Memo 19-02	Cover October 2018	October 2018 Thru QC Policy Memo 19-04
A-1	10-18-18	A-1	08-29-19

Please contact your Regional Office, if you have any questions regarding FY 2020 QC tolerance level.

Sincerely,

Jane C. Duffield for

Ronald K. Ward
Director
Program Accountability and Administration Division

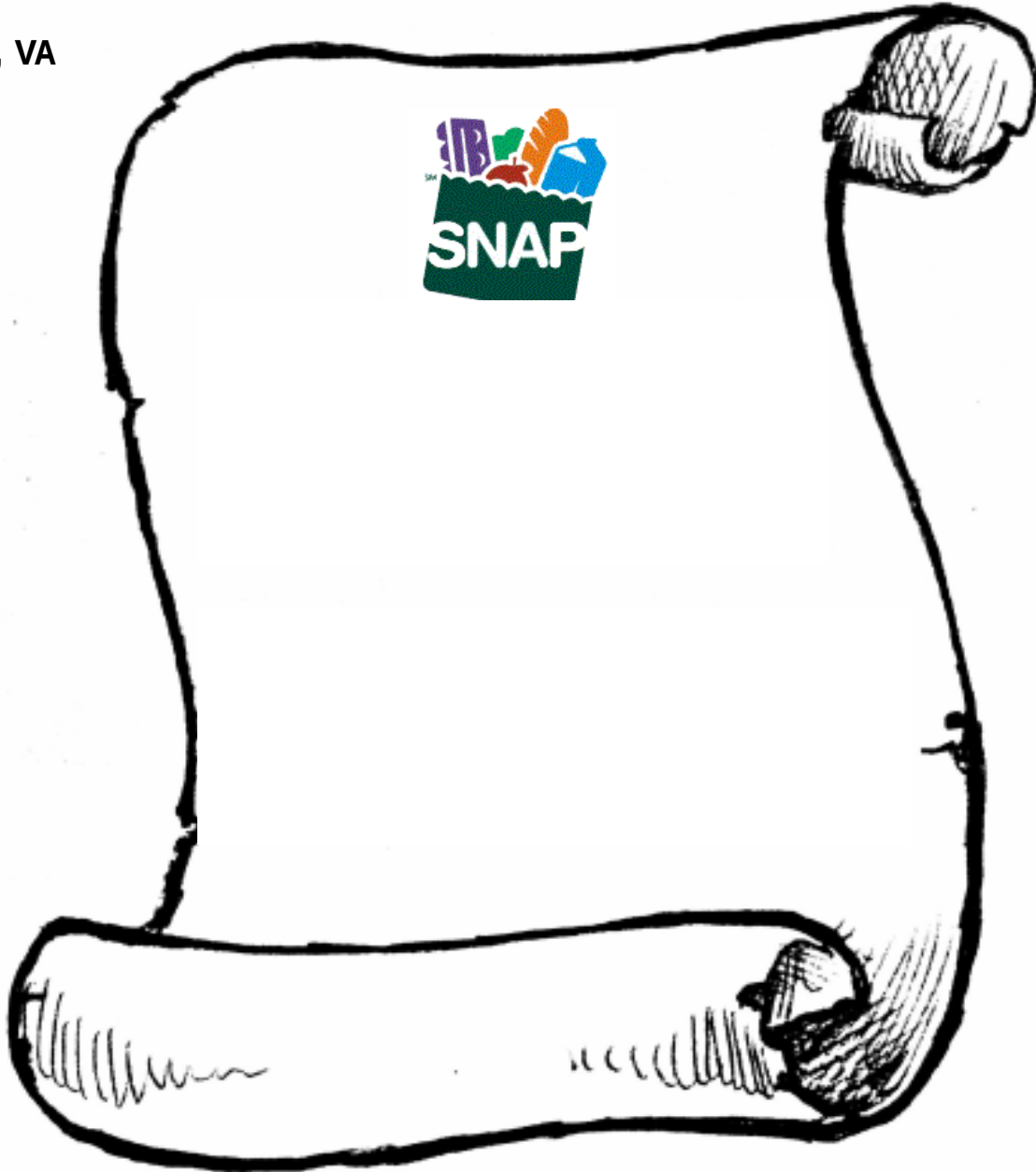
Attachment

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Service**

Alexandria, VA



**October 2018
Thru QC Policy Memo 19-04**

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.

APPENDIX A

SNAP QC Error Threshold

The SNAP QC review process includes an error threshold (QC tolerance level) for its active frame cases. This threshold determines which cases reviewed by QC will end up in the calculation of a State's official error rate. Prior to FY 2014, the threshold required a regulatory or legislative change for the threshold amount to be adjusted. However, in 2014, an act of Congress required the FY 2014 threshold to be used as a baseline for all fiscal years moving forward. For fiscal years 2015 and thereafter, the 2014 QC tolerance level is adjusted annually by the percentage by which the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) for the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia is adjusted. This appendix will be updated annually with the revised threshold amount.

Cases with a final error allotment amount less than or equal to ($\leq$) the threshold are not included in the calculation of a State agency's official error rate for that fiscal year.

Cases with a final error allotment amount greater than ($>$) the threshold are included in the calculation of the State agency's official error rate for that fiscal year.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Threshold Amount</u>
2020	\$37
2019	\$ 37
2018	\$ 37
2017	\$ 38
2016	\$ 38
2015	\$ 38
2014	\$ 37
2013	\$ 50
2012	\$ 50
2010 - 2011	\$ 25
2009 (6 mo only)	\$ 50
2000 - part of 2009	\$ 25
1979-1999	\$ 5

Important notes:

- All cases determined ineligible for SNAP as a result of the final QC review, regardless of the error amount, are included in the calculation of a State's official error rate.

All errors found during a QC review, regardless of its inclusion in the State's official error rate determination, must be cited and reported to the appropriate office(s) within the State agency that addresses SNAP overissuances, underissuances, and corrective action/improvement initiatives.