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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 91 INF-43

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services

DIVISION: Income
 Maintenance

DATE: August 22, 1991

SUBJECT: Food Stamps: Standard Utility Allowance and Heating/
 Air Conditioning Allowance Increases October 1, 1991

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Food Stamp Directors
 Income Maintenance Directors
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: County Food Stamp Representative at 1-800-342-3715,
 extension 4-9225.

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment I - 10/1/91 Standard Utility Allowances -
 (available on-line).
 Attachment II - Notice of Intent to Increase Food
 Stamp Benefits - (not available on-line).

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
	91 INF-23	387.12 (e) (3)(v)		FSSB Sections XI-D-1 v-3-all	ABEL Transmittal 91-4

The purpose of this release is to inform local districts of increases to the food stamp standard utility allowances and heating/air conditioning allowances effective October 1, 1991. Increases apply to the standard utility allowances and heating/air conditioning allowances only in those local districts indicated on the attached chart.

All other local district standard allowances remain unchanged.

The Statewide standard telephone allowance for all local districts effective October 1, 1991 remains at \$34 per month.

In the past, changes to the standard utility and heating/air conditioning allowances were made effective April 1st of each year. To improve local district operations, these changes will now be made effective October 1st of each year, the same date the thrifty food plan, standard deduction, eligibility levels and maximum excess shelter deduction are annually adjusted. Due to time constraints local districts will receive notification of changes to the thrifty food plan, standard deduction, eligibility levels and maximum excess shelter deduction by GIS message.

The Food Stamp Source Book will be updated to reflect the information contained in this release.

Local District Action

A. NYC

The NYC standard utility, HT/AC and phone allowances are unchanged.

B. Rest of State

Increased food stamp benefits were provided to households affected by the increased allowances as part of the August WMS FS Maximum Allotment Amount Increase (ALL MRB/A). Further details regarding this mass rebudgeting were issued in ABEL Transmittal 91-4. Beginning August 12, 1991, WMS ABEL will support use of the increased standard allowances for FS budgets with a from date of October 1, 1991 or later.

C. Notices - Statewide

Households who were mass rebudgeted and received increased food stamp benefits as a result of the 10/1/91 ALL MRB/A, received an automated "Notice of Intent to Increase Food Stamp Benefits" (see attached copy). See ABEL Transmittal 91-4 for further details regarding use of this notice.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance

1991 STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES
EFFECTIVE 10/1/91

* Allowance Unchanged From Previous Year

<u>County</u>	<u>Utilities</u>	<u>Heating Air Conditioning</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Albany	125	150*	275
Allegheny	125	151*	276
Broome	124	153*	277
Cattaraugus	123	152*	275
Cayuga	122*	154*	276*
Chautauqua	125	157*	282
Chemung	124	157*	281
Chenango	124	152*	276
Clinton	135	162*	297
Columbia	127	153*	280
Cortland	122	152*	274
Delaware	124	153*	277
Dutchess	128	163*	291
Erie	125	158*	283
Essex	135	162*	297
Franklin	135	162*	297
Fulton	123	145*	268
Genesee	121	155*	276
Greene	128	163*	291
Hamilton	135	162*	297
Herkimer	125	152*	277
Jefferson	123	149	272
Lewis	131	163	294

<u>County</u>	<u>Utilities</u>	<u>Heating Air Conditioning</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Livingston	122	152*	274
Madison	124	152*	276
Monroe	122	153	275
Montgomery	123	149	272
Nassau	144	178	322
New York City	158*	205*	363*
Niagara	124	158*	282
Oneida	124	152*	276
Onondaga	124	152*	276
Ontario	123	154*	277
Orange	131	171*	302
Orleans	121	150	271
Oswego	123	150	273
Otsego	122	152*	274
Putnam	128*	166*	294*
Rensselaer	125	152*	277
Rockland	141*	182*	323*
St. Lawrence	131	162	293
Saratoga	125	152*	277
Schenectady	123	150	273
Schoharie	135	162*	297
Schuyler	124	153*	277
Seneca	124	159*	283
Steuben	126	158*	284
Suffolk	151*	217*	368*
Sullivan	132	162*	294

<u>County</u>	<u>Utilities</u>	<u>Heating Air Conditioning</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tioga	124	158*	282
Tompkins	124	159*	283
Ulster	127	163*	290
Warren	123	149	272
Washington	125	152*	277
Wayne	124	154*	278
Westchester	139	186*	325
Wyoming	125	153*	278
Yates	124	156*	280

Telephone Standard - All Local Districts - \$34*