

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
Center for Employment & Economic Supports**

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TO: Commissioners; TA & FS Directors; WMS Coordinators; CAP Coordinators; MA Directors

FROM: Russell Sykes, Deputy Commissioner, Center for Employment & Economic Supports

SUBJECT: Updated – Food Stamp Standards for October 1, 2008

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2008

CONTACT PERSON: FS Questions – Food Stamp Bureau (518) 473-1469
MRB/A NYC Questions- Pat Bennett (212) 961-8205

As of October 1, 2008 the Food Stamp standards are as follows:

The standard deduction amounts that will be used in the annual FS mass rebudgeting for October 1, 2008:

Household Size	Standard Deduction
1	\$144
2	\$144
3	\$144
4	\$147
5	\$172
6+	\$197

The minimum allotment for one and two person households has increased from \$10 to \$14.

Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction: \$446
 Homeless Shelter Deduction: \$143 (unchanged)
 Boarder/Lodger Exclusion: \$176 for one person or \$323 for two person households
 Dependent Care Deduction: Actual Expense Allowed (No limit)

Household size	200% of Poverty	Monthly Income Elderly/Disabled Separate/Household 165% of Poverty	Maximum Gross Monthly Income 130% of Poverty	Maximum Net Monthly Income 100% of Poverty	Maximum Allotment
1	1733	1430	1127	867	176
2	2333	1925	1517	1167	323
3	2933	2420	1907	1467	463
4	3533	2915	2297	1767	588
5	4133	3410	2687	2067	698
6	4733	3905	3077	2367	838
7	5333	4400	3467	2667	926
8	5933	4895	3857	2967	1058
Each Add'l Member	600 +	495 +	390 +	300 +	132 +

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New York State has re-evaluated the Standard Utility Allowances (SUA standards) and determined there will be no change to the amounts of the HT/AC SUA (Combined Heat/Utility/Phone SUA in NYC), Non-Heating SUA and Phone SUA:

Geographic Area	HT/AC SUA	UTIL SUA	PHONE SUA
NYC	\$577	\$256	\$33
Nassau & Suffolk	\$543	\$238	\$33
Rest of State	\$478	\$222	\$33

In New York City, the new amounts for budgets effective October 1, 2008 will be migrated to production on the weekend of September 20, 2008.

The standardized benefit amounts for NYSNIP (New York State Nutrition Improvement Program) will be updated as part of this Mass Rebudget for October 1, 2008.

NYSNIP BENEFITS MATRIX BY SHELTER TYPES
Effective October 1, 2008

HOUSEHOLD		MONTHLY FOOD STAMP BENEFIT AMOUNT		
		New York City	Nassau/Suffolk	Upstate
Shelter Type 94 (High Shelter/SUA)	SSI Only	\$176	\$176	\$172
	Other Income	\$176	\$176	\$163
Shelter Type 95 (Low Shelter/SUA)	SSI Only	\$122	\$114	\$98
	Other Income	\$115	\$107	\$91
Shelter Type 96 (High Shelter/ SUA/\$1 HEAP)	SSI Only	\$176	\$176	\$172
	Other Income	\$176	\$176	\$163
Shelter Type 97 (Low Shelter/ SUA/\$1 HEAP)	SSI Only	\$122	\$114	\$98
	Other Income	\$115	\$107	\$91
Shelter Type 98 (No Shelter or SUA Data)	SSI Only	\$36	\$36	\$36
	Other Income	\$32	\$32	\$32

Shelter Type 96 and 97 benefit levels will increase effective October 1, 2008. This is due to the eligibility of households having these Shelter Types to receive a \$1.00 Home Energy Assistance Program Benefit. Receipt of a HEAP benefit entitles the Food Stamp household to have the full SUA applied to the FS budget.

A copy of the mass notice sent to recipients is attached. If the notice does not print properly and a hard copy is needed, please request a faxed copy via the contacts listed above. Please note that the attached mass notice is also being used to update the gross monthly income standards (130% of poverty level) to those households subject to six-month reporting rules.