

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
Center for Employment & Economic Supports

August 20, 2013

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TO: Subscribers

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Commissioners, TA Directors, FS Directors, Employment Coordinators,
WMS Coordinators, MA Directors

FROM: Phyllis Morris, Deputy Commissioner, Center for Employment and Economic Supports

SUBJECT: Upstate and NYC-Updated Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Standards for
October, 2013

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: SNAP/Food Stamp Questions-Food Stamp (SNAP) Bureau (518) 473-1469
MRB/A Upstate Questions-John Pezzulo (518)473-3468
MRB/A NYC Questions – Pat Bennett (212) 961-8185

All Social Service Districts will receive a supply of the Public Notice Poster (copy attached) outlining the updated SNAP standards for October 1, 2013. The Public Notice Poster must be displayed in English and Spanish in reception and lobby areas where applications for SNAP benefits are accepted until November 30, 2013. Districts with more than one office conducting such business must post the Public Notices in all such offices. The Public Notice Poster must be displayed within these areas in a manner reasonably expected to be seen by individuals and should be placed in close proximity to the Poster Pub. 4842, *If you need an Interpreter*. Per Executive Order 26, the public notice is also available on OTDA's website in the most common non-English languages.

In compliance with federal requirements 7 CFR 273.9, effective October 1, 2013 the SNAP standards will be as follows:

The standard deduction amounts that will be used in the annual SNAP mass re-budgeting for October 1, 2013:

Household Size	Standard Deduction
1	\$152
2	\$152
3	\$152
4	\$163
5	\$191
6+	\$219

The minimum allotment for one and two person households remains at \$16.

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Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction: \$478
Homeless Shelter Deduction: \$143 (unchanged)
Boarder/Lodger Exclusion: \$200 for one person or \$367 for two persons (unchanged)

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 (Unchanged)
1	\$1,915	\$1,580	\$1,245	\$958	\$200
2	\$2,585	\$2,133	\$1,681	\$1,293	\$367
3	\$3,255	\$2,686	\$2,116	\$1,628	\$526
4	\$3,925	\$3,239	\$2,552	\$1,963	\$668
5	\$4,595	\$3,791	\$2,987	\$2,298	\$793
6	\$5,265	\$4,344	\$3,423	\$2,633	\$952
7	\$5,935	\$4,897	\$3,858	\$2,968	\$1,052
8	\$6,605	\$5,450	\$4,294	\$3,303	\$1,202
Each Add'l Member	+\$670	+\$553	+\$436	+\$335	+\$150

*Elderly (60 years of age or older) household members (and their spouses) who are incapable of buying food or preparing meals due to a disability may apply as a separate food unit if the income of the others with whom the individual resides (excluding the income of the elderly or disabled individual and spouse) do not exceed the 165% limit.

**SNAP households containing an aged or disabled individual, and households that pay out-of-pocket dependent care costs, that pass the 200% gross income test and do not contain a SNAP-sanctioned or an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) member are categorically eligible for SNAP benefits.

There will be an increase to the amounts of the HT/AC SUA (Combined Heat/Utility/Phone SUA in NYC) as well as the Non-Heating SUA. The Phone SUA will remain the same:

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Geographic Area	HT/AC SUA	UTIL SUA	PHONE SUA
NYC	\$753	\$298	\$33
Nassau & Suffolk	\$702	\$275	\$33
Rest of State	\$623	\$252	\$33

Note: The SUA values other than the Phone SUA include amounts for water, sewage, and trash collection.

NYSNIP BENEFITS MATRIX BY SHELTER TYPES

Effective 10/01/13 – 09/30/14

HOUSEHOLD		SNAP/FOOD STAMP MONTHLY BENEFIT AMOUNT		
		New York City	Nassau/Suffolk	Upstate
Shelter Type 94 (High Shelter/SUA)	SSI Only	\$200	\$200	\$200
	Other Income	\$200	\$200	\$200
Shelter Type 95 (Low Shelter/SUA)	SSI Only	\$200	\$192	\$168
	Other Income	\$198	\$183	\$158
Shelter Type 96 (High Shelter/ SUA/\$1 HEAP)	SSI Only	\$200	\$200	\$200
	Other Income	\$200	\$200	\$200
Shelter Type 97 (Low Shelter/ SUA/\$1 HEAP)	SSI Only	\$200	\$192	\$168
	Other Income	\$198	\$183	\$158
Shelter Type 98 (No Shelter or SUA Data)	SSI Only	\$84	\$84	\$84
	Other Income	\$80	\$80	\$80

A copy of the Public Notice Poster is attached. If the poster 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 poster is also being used to update the gross monthly income standards (130% of poverty level) to those households subject to six-month reporting rules.



Notice to all SNAP Recipients

Important! Please Read!

Beginning October 1, 2013, some items used to figure the amount of SNAP benefits a household gets will change. These changes are a result of **federally-required** changes to the following standards and deductions:

The Standard Deduction for households of one to three persons will increase by \$3, from \$149 to \$152.

The Standard Deduction for households of four persons will increase by \$3, from \$160 to \$163.

The Standard Deduction for households of five persons will increase by \$4, from \$187 to \$191.

The Standard Deduction for households of six or more persons will increase by \$5, from \$214 to \$219.

The SNAP Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction will increase by \$9, from \$469 to \$478.

The new Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) amounts, as of October 1, 2013 are:

	New York City		Nassau / Suffolk Counties		Rest of State	
	Old SUA Values	New SUA Values	Old SUA Values	New SUA Values	Old SUA Values	New SUA Values
Heating / Air Conditioning SUA	\$725	\$753	\$675	\$702	\$599	\$623
Basic Utility SUA	\$287	\$298	\$265	\$275	\$242	\$252
Phone SUA	\$33					

(Note: SUA values other than the Phone SUA include amounts for water, sewage and trash collection.)

These changes may affect the amount of SNAP benefits you get. Depending on your individual circumstance the amount of your monthly SNAP benefit may not change or it may decrease or increase as a result of these changes.

The maximum SNAP benefit amount per household size, known as the "Thrifty Food Plan" amount, will not change.

The minimum SNAP benefit amount that a one or two person household can receive, \$16.00 per month, will not change.

The State Regulations which allow us to do this are 18 NYCRR 358-3.3(e)(1)(i), 387.10, 387.12 and 387.15.

Reporting Rules:

Most SNAP households with income only have to report changes every six months. Every six months, you either will be asked to recertify, or will be mailed a form for you to use to report changes. **The one exception to this rule is if your household's gross monthly income becomes more than 130% of the federal poverty level.** Your gross income includes all income any member of your household receives during the calendar month before taxes and other deductions are taken out.

See Chart below: The dollar amount shown under your household's size shows the new 130% of poverty income limit for your household, as of October 1, 2013. If your household's gross monthly income becomes more than this amount, you must report the new, higher income amount to your social services office by phone, in writing, or in person within 10 days after the end of the month.

Report Household Gross Income Over Income Limits Below on Your Household Size:										
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Report if Gross Household Income Goes Over:	\$1245	\$1681	\$2116	\$2552	\$2987	\$3423	\$3858	\$4294	\$4730	\$5166

If you think we made a mistake in figuring your October SNAP benefits due to above noted changes, you may ask for a state fair hearing, *within 90 days of when your October 2013 SNAP benefits become available*. You can ask for a fair hearing by writing to: Office of Administrative Hearings, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, P.O. Box 1930, Albany New York 12201; Faxing (518) 473-6735; on-line by requesting a form at: <http://www.otda.ny.gov/oah/forms.asp>; or by calling toll free: 1-800-342-3334.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE: If you think that you need a lawyer to assist you with this problem, you may be able to get a lawyer at no cost to you by contacting your local Legal Aid Society or other legal advocate group.

*** The Federal 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) temporary increase in SNAP benefits ends on November 1, 2013. This will result in a benefit reduction for SNAP households beginning November 1, 2013.



Aviso a todos los beneficiarios de SNAP

IMPORTANTE Léalo

Comenzando el 1º de octubre de 2013, habrá cambios en algunos de los factores que se usan para determinar la cantidad del subsidio SNAP que las unidades familiares reciben. Estas modificaciones son el resultado de cambios **requeridos por el gobierno federal** en los siguientes estándares y deducciones.

La deducción estándar para unidades familiares de una a tres personas aumentará por \$3, de \$149 a \$152.

La deducción estándar para unidades familiares de cuatro personas aumentará por \$3, de \$160 a \$163.

La deducción estándar para unidades familiares de cinco personas aumentará por \$4, de \$187 a \$191.

La deducción estándar para unidades familiares de seis o más personas aumentará por \$5, de \$214 a \$219.

El monto de la Deducción Máxima por Exceso de Gastos de Vivienda para unidades familiares beneficiarias de SNAP aumentará por \$9, de \$469 a \$478.

Los nuevos montos del Subsidio Estándar de Servicios Públicos (SUA, siglas en inglés) a partir del 1º de octubre de 2013 son:

	Ciudad de Nueva York		Condados de Nassau / Suffolk		Resto del estado	
	Montos antiguos (SUA)	Montos nuevos (SUA)	Montos antiguos (SUA)	Montos nuevos (SUA)	Antiguamente (SUA)	Montos nuevos (SUA)
Calefacción / Aire acondicionado	\$725	\$753	\$675	\$702	\$599	\$623
Servicios públicos básicos	\$287	\$298	\$265	\$275	\$242	\$252
Servicios telefónicos (SUA)	\$33					

(Nota: los valores SUA, aparte de teléfono, incluyen montos correspondientes a agua, alcantarillado y recolección de desperdicios).

Estos cambios pueden afectar el monto del subsidio SNAP que usted recibe. Según su situación en particular, el subsidio mensual de SNAP que recibe quizás no se modifique, o puede que disminuya o aumente a consecuencia de estos cambios.

El monto máximo del subsidio SNAP, según el número de integrantes de la unidad familiar, conocido como montos del «Plan Ahorrativo de Alimentos» (*Thrifty Food Plan*), no cambiará.

El monto mínimo del subsidio SNAP para una unidad familiar de una o dos personas (actualmente \$16 al mes), no cambiará.

Conforme Reglamentación Estatal 18 NYCRR 358-3.3(e)(1)(i), 387.10, 387.12 y 387.15.

Reglas sobre informe de cambios:

La mayoría de las unidades familiares que reciben SNAP y cuentan con ingresos, solamente tienen que reportar cambios cada seis meses. Cada seis meses, se le pedirá que someta una revalidación o se le enviará por correo un formulario de informe de cambios. **La única excepción a esta regla es si el monto mensual de ingresos brutos de la unidad familiar sobrepasa el 130% del índice federal de pobreza.** Su ingreso bruto se conforma de todos los ingresos (antes de la deducción de impuestos y demás deducciones) que cada miembro de la unidad familiar recibe en un mes calendario.

Examine el cuadro a continuación: la cantidad en dólares que se muestra debajo de la casilla que representa el número de integrantes del grupo familiar, muestra el nuevo límite de 130% del índice de pobreza correspondiente al grupo familiar a partir del 1º de octubre de 2013. Si el total mensual de ingresos brutos de su grupo familiar sobrepasa ese monto, usted debe reportar el nuevo monto del aumento en ingresos a su distrito de servicios sociales, ya sea por teléfono, por escrito o en persona dentro de 10 días de finalizar el mes.

Reporte ingresos brutos del grupo familiar que sobrepasen el límite según el tamaño del grupo familiar:										
Nº DE INTEGRANTES DEL GRUPO FAMILIAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Reporte si el ingreso bruto del grupo familiar sobrepasa:	\$1245	\$1681	\$2116	\$2552	\$2987	\$3423	\$3858	\$4294	\$4730	\$5166

Si cree que hemos cometido un error al calcular el monto del subsidio SNAP para el mes de octubre según los cambios antes mencionados, puede solicitar una audiencia imparcial dentro de *90 días contados a partir de la fecha en octubre cuando el subsidio SNAP es acreditado a su cuenta*. Puede solicitar una audiencia imparcial mandando una carta a: Office of Administration Hearings, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, P.O. Box 1930, Albany New York 12201; por fax al (518) 473-6735; por internet, solicitando un formulario en el sitio web: <http://www.otda.ny.gov/oah/forms.asp>; o llamando gratis al: 1-800-342-3334.

ASISTENCIA LEGAL: si cree que necesita representación legal en la resolución de este problema, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado, sin costo alguno, comunicándose con la Sociedad de Ayuda Legal (*Legal Aid Society*) u otra asociación de defensa legal de su localidad.

*** El aumento temporal de los beneficios del programa SNAP otorgado por *The Federal 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (ARRA) se termina el 1º de noviembre de 2013. Por consiguiente, a partir del 1º de noviembre de 2013, habrá una reducción de los beneficios del programa SNAP para los grupos familiares.