



## Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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### General Information System (GIS) Message

#### Section 1

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| <b>Transmittal:</b>            | 25DC055<br>Upstate and New York City  |
| <b>Date:</b>                   | August 7, 2025  |
| <b>To:</b>                     | Subscribers   |
| <b>Suggested Distribution:</b> | Temporary Assistance (TA) Staff, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Staff, Employment Coordinators, WMS Coordinators, Staff Development Coordinators  |
| <b>From:</b>                   | Valerie Figueroa, Deputy Commissioner, Employment and Income Support Programs   |
| <b>Subject:</b>                | Summary of SNAP Changes in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R 1)   |
| <b>Effective Date:</b>         | Upon further guidance   |
| <b>Contact Information:</b>    | Employment and Advancement Services Bureau 518-486-6106 or <a href="mailto:EASBureau@otda.ny.gov">EASBureau@otda.ny.gov</a><br>SNAP Bureau 518-473-1469 or <a href="mailto:SNAPBureau@otda.ny.gov">SNAPBureau@otda.ny.gov</a> |
| <b>Attachments:</b>            | N/A   |

#### Section 2

On July 4, 2025, the President signed into law the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (the Act). The purpose of this GIS message is to inform Social Services Districts (districts) about provisions in the legislation that will impact the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

**Districts are instructed to not implement any of the following changes as a result of the Act until OTDA issues implementation guidance.**

#### SNAP ABAWD Changes

- **Increases the Age of Those Subject to the ABAWD Time Limit:**  
The Act expands the age range for those who is subject to the ABAWD time limit. The Bill changes the ABAWD work rules age range to those 18-64 (currently 18-54).

- **Establishes a Dependent Child Age Threshold of 14 Years for Exemption from the ABAWD Time Limit:**  
The ABAWD exemption for adults residing in a SNAP household with a child under 18 is modified and now applies only to adults residing with a child under 14.
- **Removes Three Existing ABAWD Exemptions:**  
The Act removes the 3 specific exemptions from the ABAWD time limit established by the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2023. These are:
  - Homeless individuals
  - Veterans
  - Individuals aged 24 or younger and in foster care on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- **Adds One New ABAWD Exemption:**  
The Act includes an ABAWD exemption for individuals who are Indians, Urban Indians, California Indians, and other Indians who are eligible for the Indian Health Services.
- **Changes to the ABAWD Waiver Criteria:**  
The Act limits the criteria states can request an ABAWD waiver to areas of the state that have an unemployment rate of over 10 percent. States are no longer able to seek ABAWD waivers for “lack of sufficient jobs”.

### **SNAP Policy/Eligibility Changes:**

- **SNAP Eligibility for Non-Citizens:** The Act further limits SNAP eligibility for non-citizens to only include Legal Permanent Residents, Cuban and Haitian Entrants, and those allowed to live in the US under the Compacts of Free Association. OTDA will provide updated policy information, as well as a revised Non-Citizen desk guide (LDSS-4579), when further federal guidance is issued.
- **Limits on “Heat and Eat”:** States are restricted from increasing a household’s utility-based income deduction due to the household receiving a nominal HEAP benefit unless the household contains an elderly or disabled member. Households ineligible for the \$21 HEAP payment may still be eligible for the Tier 2 (utility) or Tier 3 (telephone) based on household circumstances. OTDA will provide guidance on implementation of the changes when federal guidance is issued.

### **Other SNAP-related Changes**

- **Thrifty Food Plan Adjustments:** The Act limits when USDA can update the Thrifty Food Plan that is used as one factor in calculating SNAP benefit values. As a result, benefit adjustments would largely be based on Consumer Price Index changes. As a reminder, benefit amounts are released each year as part of the October SNAP Standards. There is no action required by districts as a result of this provision.

- **SNAP-Education Program Funding Eliminated:** Federal funding is eliminated for the SNAP Education program effective at the end of FFY25 (September 30, 2025).

## **SNAP Funding Changes**

- **SNAP Benefit Cost-Shift:** The Act newly shifts responsibility for paying a portion of SNAP benefits onto states that have a Payment Error Rate (PER) of 6% or higher. The exact percentage of the state share is determined by the state's PER. Benefit cost shift is effective October 1, 2027 (FFY28). However, delayed implementation is available to states with a PER that exceeds 13.34% in FFY25 of FFY26.

NYS FFY 2024 PER was 14.09%. NYS's current 2025 PER is 12.35% (based on preliminary state sample data from October 2024 through February 2025).

- **SNAP Administration Cost-Shift:** Effective October 1, 2026, the federal share for SNAP administrative costs will be reduced from 50% to 25%, which will increase the State/local share from 50% to 75%.

**OTDA is currently awaiting guidance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) on the ABAWD-related and SNAP policy changes. OTDA will provide policy guidance once we have received federal clarifications on the timing of implementation, and needed systems changes.**

We will work to keep you informed as new developments occur.