



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT UNIT**

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE A-09-2020

TO: DSS & DMMA Staff

DATE: September 21, 2020

PROGRAMS: Food Supplement Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), and Child Care

SUBJECT: October 2020 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs)

BACKGROUND

Each October, indexed adjustments are made to the Federal Poverty Levels (FPLs) affecting the Food Supplement, TANF, and Child Care programs.

This notice contains:

- Food Benefit Maximum Allotments and Deductions
- Eligibility Income Limits for the Food Supplement, TANF, and Child Care programs

DISCUSSION

The following attachments contain the changes which are effective October 1, 2020.

Attachment A: Food Supplement Program Monthly Allotments, Deductions, and Eligibility Standards

Changes were made to the following:

- Food Benefit Allotment Amounts (Increased by 5.3%)
- Standard Deductions
- Excess Shelter Deduction
- Standard Utility Allowances
- Income Eligibility Standards

The Basis of EBT Issuance Allotment tables are available in the Outlook Public Folders under DHSS/DSS/Policy/Food Supplement Program/2021 COLA Documents.

Attachment B: Cash Assistance Income Eligibility Standards, Deductions, and Resource Limits

Changes were made to the TANF Income Eligibility Standards.

Attachment C: Child Care Income Limits

The income limits are 185% of the FPL.

Attachment D: Simplified Reporting Rules for Food Benefits

The income table was revised based on changes in the income limits.

Attachment E: State Median Income (SMI) Limits for Child Care

The income table was revised based on changes in the income limits.

ACTION REQUIRED

Food Benefit Cases

ASSIST Worker Web (AWW) will update the Food Benefit COLA changes for October 2020 benefits when mass change is run in September 2020.

New Food Benefit cases opened after the update will have the correct allotment amounts for September and October (e.g. expedited cases).

TANF Cases

After mass change is run in September 2020, the AWW system will be updated to reflect the October 2020 TANF standard of need limits.

For new cases, staff will process new applications as usual. AWW will determine eligibility for benefits for September based on September's standard of need limits. AWW will determine eligibility for October's benefits based on October's standard of need limits.

Child Care Cases

AWW will be updated to reflect the new income limits for families receiving Purchase of Care. All existing authorizations, including October and any subsequent months, will be updated to reflect decreased copayments. However, copayments may increase if authorizations have not met the maximum copayment assignment. Beginning October 1, 2020, AWW will use the new income limits to determine eligibility and assign copayments for all new and redetermined cases.

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

Marcella Spady
Social Service Senior Administrator
Food Supplement Program
302-255-9606

Teresa Gallagher
Social Service Senior Administrator
Food Supplement Program
302-255-9873

Janneen Boyce
Social Service Chief Administrator
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302-255-9608

Belvie Herbert
Social Service Senior Administrator
Child Care Program
302-255-9611

Signed 9/21/2020

THOMAS HALL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Food Supplement Program Monthly Allotments, Deductions, and Eligibility Standards
Attachment B: Cash Assistance Income Eligibility Standards, Deductions, and Resource Limits
Attachment C: Child Care Income Limits
Attachment D: Simplified Reporting Rules for Food Benefits
Attachment E: Income Reporting for Child Care

TH/MS/TG/JB/BH

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

MAXIMUM FOOD BENEFIT ALLOTMENTS		
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
1	\$194	\$204
2	\$355	\$374
3	\$509	\$535
4	\$646	\$680
5	\$768	\$807
6	\$921	\$969
7	\$1,018	\$1,071
8	\$1,164	\$1,224
Each additional member	\$146	\$153

MINIMUM FOOD BENEFIT ALLOTMENTS	
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>48 States and DC</i>
1-2	\$16

STANDARD DEDUCTIONS		
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
1-3	\$167	\$167
4	\$178	\$181
5	\$209	\$212
6+	\$240	\$243

MAXIMUM EXCESS SHELTER DEDUCTION	
<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
\$569	\$586

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

HOMELESS SHELTER DEDUCTION	
<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
\$152.06	\$156.74

MAXIMUM ASSET LIMITS	
<i>Household Type</i>	<i>Maximum Amount</i>
Households with at least one member who is age 60 or older or is disabled	\$3,500
All other households	\$2,250

MAXIMUM LIMIT FOR LOTTERY AND GAMBLING WINNINGS
\$3,500

VEHICLE FAIR MARKET VALUE INDEX
\$4,650

SELF-EMPLOYMENT STANDARD DEDUCTION
49%

STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES		
<i>Type of Utility</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
Heating/Cooling	\$434	\$407
Limited (Non-Heating/Cooling)	\$301	\$282
One Utility	\$79	\$70
Telephone	\$37	\$36

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

INCOME ELIGIBILITY LIMITS					
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income 200% FPL</i> <i>Categorically Eligible</i>	<i>Elderly / Disabled Separate Household 165% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income 130% FPL</i> <i>Simplified Reporting</i>	<i>Maximum Net Monthly Income 100% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Allotment</i>
1	\$2,128	\$1,755	\$1,383	\$1,064	\$204
2	\$2,874	\$2,371	\$1,868	\$1,437	\$374
3	\$3,620	\$2,987	\$2,353	\$1,810	\$535
4	\$4,368	\$3,603	\$2,839	\$2,184	\$680
5	\$5,114	\$4,219	\$3,324	\$2,557	\$807
6	\$5,860	\$4,835	\$3,809	\$2,930	\$969
7	\$6,608	\$5,451	\$4,295	\$3,304	\$1,071
8	\$7,354	\$6,067	\$4,780	\$3,677	\$1,224
Each additional member	\$748	\$616	\$486	\$374	\$153

Attachment B

**CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

TANF PROGRAM COST OF LIVING STANDARD ADJUSTMENTS			
<i>Number of People in the Budget Group</i>	<i>185% of the Standard of Need</i>	<i>Standard of Need 75% FPL</i>	<i>Payment Standard</i>
1	\$1,476	\$798	\$201
2	\$1,994	\$1,078	\$270
3	\$2,512	\$1,358	\$338
4	\$3,030	\$1,638	\$407
5	\$3,548	\$1,918	\$475
6	\$4,066	\$2,198	\$544
7	\$4,584	\$2,478	\$612
8	\$5,102	\$2,758	\$681
9	\$5,620	\$3,038	\$750
10	\$6,140	\$3,319	\$819
11	\$6,658	\$3,599	\$888
12	\$7,178	\$3,880	\$957
13	\$7,696	\$4,160	\$1,026
14	\$8,216	\$4,441	\$1,095
15	\$8,734	\$4,721	\$1,164
16	\$9,254	\$5,002	\$1,233
17	\$9,772	\$5,282	\$1,302
18	\$10,292	\$5,563	\$1,371

Attachment B

**CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM STANDARDS OF NEED AND PAYMENT STANDARDS		
<i>Number of People in the Budget Group</i>	<i>Standard of Need</i>	<i>Payment Standard</i>
1	\$79	\$79
2	\$107	\$107
3	\$144	\$144
4	\$169	\$169
5	\$209	\$209
6	\$239	\$239
7	\$266	\$266

TANF MAXIMUM DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTIONS		
<i>Age of Child</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2019</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2020</i>
Under 2 years old	\$ 200	\$ 200
2 years old and older	\$ 175	\$ 175

RESOURCE LIMITS	
<i>Program</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Assistance	\$1,000
TANF	\$10,000

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION BONUS
\$350

Attachment C

**CHILD CARE PROGRAM
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

INCOME ELIGIBILITY LIMITS & SLIDING FEE SCALE							
<i>MONTHLY COPAYMENTS ARE BASED ON COUNTABLE FAMILY INCOME</i>							
<i>Family Size</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income at Application 185% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income at Redetermination 200% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income during Authorization 85% SMI</i>	<i>Excessive Financial Burden for Copayments ≤ 40% FPL</i>	<i>Waived Copayments ≤ 70% FPL</i>	<i>4% of Gross Income Applied to Copayments >70% - 105% FPL</i>	<i>9% of Gross Income Applied to Copayments >105% - 200% FPL</i>
1	\$1,968	\$2,128	\$3,711	\$426	\$745	\$746 - \$1,117	\$1,118 - \$2,128
2	\$2,658	\$2,874	\$4,853	\$575	\$1,006	\$1,007 - \$1,509	\$1,510 - \$2,874
3	\$3,349	\$3,620	\$5,995	\$724	\$1,267	\$1,268 - \$1,901	\$1,902 - \$3,620
4	\$4,040	\$4,368	\$7,136	\$874	\$1,529	\$1,530 - \$2,293	\$2,294 - \$4,368
5	\$4,730	\$5,114	\$8,278	\$1,023	\$1,790	\$1,791 - \$2,685	\$2,686 - \$5,114
6	\$5,421	\$5,860	\$9,420	\$1,172	\$2,051	\$2,052 - \$3,077	\$3,078 - \$5,860
7	\$6,112	\$6,608	\$9,634	\$1,322	\$2,313	\$2,314 - \$3,469	\$3,470 - \$6,608
8	\$6,802	\$7,354	\$9,848	\$1,471	\$2,574	\$2,575 - \$3,861	\$3,862 - \$7,354
9	\$7,494	\$8,102	\$10,062	\$1,620	\$2,836	\$2,837 - \$4,254	\$4,255 - \$8,102
10	\$8,186	\$8,850	\$10,277	\$1,770	\$3,098	\$3,099 - \$4,646	\$4,647 - \$8,850
11	\$8,878	\$9,598	\$10,491	\$1,920	\$3,359	\$3,360 - \$5,039	\$5,040 - \$9,598
12	\$9,570	\$10,346	\$10,705	\$2,069	\$3,621	\$3,622 - \$5,432	\$5,433 - \$10,346
13	\$10,262	\$11,094	\$10,919	\$2,219	\$3,883	\$3,884 - \$5,824	\$5,825 - \$11,094
14	\$10,954	\$11,842	\$11,133	\$2,368	\$4,145	\$4,146 - \$6,217	\$6,218 - \$11,842
15	\$11,646	\$12,590	\$11,347	\$2,518	\$4,407	\$4,408 - \$6,610	\$6,611 - \$12,590
16	\$12,338	\$13,338	\$11,561	\$2,668	\$4,668	\$4,669 - \$7,002	\$7,003 - \$13,338
17	\$13,030	\$14,086	\$11,775	\$2,817	\$4,930	\$4,931 - \$7,392	\$7,393 - \$14,086
18	\$13,721	\$14,834	\$11,989	\$2,967	\$5,192	\$5,193 - \$7,788	\$7,789 - \$14,834

Attachment D

**SIMPLIFIED REPORTING RULES FOR FOOD BENEFITS
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

If you receive Food Benefits, you only have to report when your household’s total monthly income is greater than the amount listed in the table below (130% of the Federal Poverty Level) for your family size.

To determine your household’s total monthly income, add the gross amount (the amount of the income before deductions are taken out) of all earned income to the amount of all unearned income (such as Social Security benefits or other cash assistance) that is received by your household during the month.

$$\text{Monthly Gross Earned Income} + \text{Monthly Unearned Income} = \text{Total Monthly Income}$$

If your household’s total monthly income is greater than the amount shown below for the number of people in your Food Benefits case, you must report your total monthly income to the Division of Social Services (DSS) within 10 days after the end of the month. You must show your paycheck stubs to your case worker.

<i>Number of People in Your Case</i>	<i>Household Income</i>			
	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Twice a Month</i>	<i>Bi-weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>
1	\$1,383	\$691	\$640	\$319
2	\$1,868	\$934	\$865	\$431
3	\$2,353	\$1,176	\$1,089	\$543
4	\$2,839	\$1,419	\$1,314	\$656
5	\$3,324	\$1,662	\$1,539	\$768
6	\$3,809	\$1,904	\$1,763	\$880
7	\$4,295	\$2,147	\$1,988	\$992
8	\$4,780	\$2,390	\$2,213	\$1,104
For each additional person, add:	\$486	\$243	\$225	\$112

You are not required to report other changes in your Food Benefit household's circumstances. This reporting requirement is for Food Benefits only. If you do report a change, DSS will take action on it and will notify you if the change results in either an increase or decrease in your benefits.

Additional Reporting Rule for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs):

If you are an adult living in a household without any minor children and you are getting Food Benefits because you are working 20 or more hours per week, you must report when you start working less than 20 hours per week

You must immediately report any changes in your household’s circumstances for Cash Assistance and Medical Assistance.

Attachment E

**INCOME REPORTING FOR CHILD CARE
 OCTOBER 1, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

If you are receiving Child Care Assistance, you are required to report a change in income when your family’s total monthly income increases to greater than 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) shown below. You must report this increase in income to DSS within 10 days of the change.

85% STATE MEDIAN INCOME (SMI) LIMITS

<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Yearly State Median Income</i>	<i>Monthly Income 85% SMI</i>	<i>Weekly Income 85% SMI</i>	<i>Bi-weekly Income 85% SMI</i>	<i>Semi-Monthly Income 85% SMI</i>
1	\$52,390	\$3,711	\$857	\$1,718	\$1,856
2	\$68,510	\$4,853	\$1,121	\$2,247	\$2,427
3	\$84,630	\$5,995	\$1,385	\$2,775	\$2,998
4	\$100,750	\$7,136	\$1,648	\$3,304	\$3,568
5	\$116,870	\$8,278	\$1,912	\$3,832	\$4,139
6	\$132,990	\$9,420	\$2,176	\$4,361	\$4,710
7	\$136,013	\$9,634	\$2,225	\$4,460	\$4,817
8	\$139,035	\$9,848	\$2,274	\$4,559	\$4,924
9	\$142,058	\$10,062	\$2,324	\$4,658	\$5,031
10	\$145,080	\$10,277	\$2,373	\$4,758	\$5,139
11	\$148,103	\$10,491	\$2,423	\$4,857	\$5,246
12	\$151,125	\$10,705	\$2,472	\$4,956	\$5,353
13	\$154,147	\$10,919	\$2,522	\$5,055	\$5,460
14	\$157,169	\$11,133	\$2,571	\$5,154	\$5,567
15	\$160,191	\$11,347	\$2,621	\$5,253	\$5,674
16	\$163,213	\$11,561	\$2,670	\$5,353	\$5,781
17	\$166,235	\$11,775	\$2,719	\$5,451	\$5,888
18	\$169,257	\$11,989	\$2,769	\$5,550	\$5,995