

Changes to SNAP that will be in effect as of October 1, 2015 are:

1. The standard deduction has **changed** as follows:

- \$155 for households of **one, two or three people** (previously \$155 per month);
- \$168 for households of **four people** (previously \$165);
- \$197 for households of **five people** (previously \$193); and
- \$226 for households with **six or more people** (previously \$221).

2. The maximum shelter hardship deduction **increased** to \$504.00 (previously \$490)

3. The Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) will **decrease to** \$708.00 (previously \$724).

4. The Telephone Utility Allowance (TUA) will **decrease to** \$26.00 (previously \$27)

5. The Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) will **decrease to** \$311.00 (previously \$318)

6. The 185% of FPL limits for Expanded Categorical Eligibility will increase to reflect the October 2015 increases issued earlier this year as follows:

Household Size	185% FPL (Gross Income Limit)
1	\$1,815
2	\$2,456
3	\$3,098
4	\$3,739
5	\$4,380
6	\$5,022
7	\$5,663
8	\$6,304
Each additional member	+\$642

8. The Applied (Net) 100% Income limits have increased (not listed). This is largely academic as most households qualify under the Expanded Categorical Eligibility rules, irrespective of this limit. This increase, however, affects the income limit that is used for federal Simplified Reporting requirements (130% of SNAP Applied Income Limit) and the income limit used to determine if elderly and disabled household members qualify to be a separate household when they purchase and prepare food with others (165% of the SNAP Applied Income Limit).

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>130% of SNAP Applied Income Limit</u>
1	\$1,276
2	\$1,726
3	\$2,177
4	\$2,628
5	\$3,078
6	\$3,529
7	\$3,980
8	\$4,430
Each Additional Member	+\$451

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>165% SNAP Applied Income Limit</u>
1	\$1,619
2	\$2,191
3	\$2,763
4	\$3,335
5	\$3,907
6	\$4,479
7	\$5,051
8	\$5,623
Each Additional Member	+\$572

Please remember that households with an elderly or disabled member and with incomes *under* 185% of FPL are eligible under the new Expanded Categorical eligibility rules - you do not need to verify assets for these households. The only households subject to an asset test are households with an elderly or disabled member with incomes *above* 185% of FPL.

The EMS parameters for the income limits, standard deduction amounts and maximum hardship will be updated **September 11, 2015** by the SNAP Division. All new applications and changes processed after that date apply the new standards for the October 1, 2015 issuance. An EMS mass modification will be done **September 12, 2015** to apply all of the new standards to all active recipients for the October 1, 2015 benefit.