430.01   CHANGES IN SITUATION REPORTED DURING NORMAL PROCESSING TIME FRAMES

During the application/reaplication or recertification interview, it is the interviewer’s responsibility to inform households of their responsibility to report required changes.

An applicant household must report changes which occur after the interview but before the notice of eligibility, by the 10th of the month, following the month in which the notice of eligibility is received.

430.02   REACTING TO CHANGES IN SITUATION

A. It is necessary to react to changes which occur after the interview but prior to disposition of a Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) application. When the FNS unit reports a change, or a change becomes known to the agency prior to disposition of the application take the following actions:

1. Evaluate the changed information. Use a DSS-8650 Notice of Information Needed for Complete your Food and Nutrition Services (DSS-8650), to request additional information. Allow the FNS unit ten calendar days to provide the needed information.

2. Screen for expedited service. If eligible for expedited services, see FNS 425 Expedited Service Processing.

3. Include the changed information when determining eligibility.

B. The following changes often occur during the processing time frame. The changes should be handled as described below:

1. Change in Household Size and Composition

When a change in the FNS unit composition occurs between the date of application and the processing due date, determine eligibility for any individual who has moved into the residence. Determine if the individual is a required FNS unit member per FNS 210 Household Composition. If the individual who has moved into the home is a required FNS unit member, include him in the FNS unit. If the individual is not a required FNS unit member but the FNS unit chooses to include him, add him to the FNS unit. Evaluate the eligibility requirements in Section 200 Eligibility Requirements. Include the individual from the date of application. Consider all income and resources when adding additional members to
the FNS unit. Do not include an individual who has moved out of the home. Document the case file.

2. Change in Resources

Determine eligibility based on the FNS unit’s resources at the time of the interview and changes that occur during the processing time period. Do not deny an application based on anticipated excess resources.

3. FNS Unit Becomes Eligible for Expedited Service

If the reported change causes the household to become eligible for expedited service, process the application following the instructions in FNS Expedited Service Processing.

4. Change Becomes Known Prior To Issuance of The Second Month of Benefits Under Expedited Service Processing

The change does not become part of the original postponed verification. Process the application within the required time frames based on the original household situation. Do not delay processing due to the new change. Use the DSS-8650 to request additional information if needed. The FNS unit has ten days to provide the information.