

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL

DATE: September 05, 2024

MANUAL: Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Certification Manual

TO: County Directors of Social Services

CHANGE NO: 02-2024

SUBJECT: 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (FY) Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) and Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) Policy Updates

EFFECTIVE: October 01, 2024

I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this change notice for manual is to update the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefit amounts. Changes were made to increase the regular FNS maximum allotment amounts, gross, net income limits, maximum allowable resource limits homeless shelter standard allowance and lottery/gambling winnings. The Standard Utility Allowance (SUA), Basic Utility Allowance (BUA), Telephone Utility Allowance (TUA), standard deduction, and excess shelter deduction amounts also changed.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has determined that North Carolina Combined Application Project (NCCAP) (known as the **Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)**) benefit levels will remain the same until further notice.

All adjustments are processed by NC FAST and will be effective October 1, 2024.

II. SPECIFIC CHANGES

FNS 220 Categorical Eligibility	
220.03, D	Section has been updated to reflect the new Lottery / Gambling winnings amount
FNS 360 Determining Benefit Levels	
FNS 360.01, A	Section has been updated to reflect the new SUA, BUA, and TUA amounts.
FNS 360.01, B	Section has been updated to reflect the new Standard Deduction amounts

FNS 360.01, D	Section has been updated to reflect the new Maximum Allowable Resource Limits for Non-Categorically Eligible households
FNS 360.01, F	Section has been updated to reflect the new Excess Shelter Deduction
FNS 360.01, G	Section has been updated to reflect the new Homeless Shelter Allowance
FNS 360.02, A	Section has been updated to reflect the new Maximum Monthly Income
FNS 360.02, B	Section has been updated to reflect the new Maximum Allotment
FNS 360.03	Section has been updated to reflect the new Income Standards for separate Food and Nutrition Services units
FNS 390 Resources	
FNS 390.01, A	Section has been updated to reflect the new Maximum allowable resource limits for non-categorically eligible households
FNS 390.05	Section has been updated to reflect the new countable/excludable reference list of resources (lottery/gambling winnings)
FNS 390.13, K	Section has been updated to reflect the new non-recurring lumpsum payments for Lottery / Gambling winnings
FNS 390.14, J	Section has been updated to reflect the new full value of the resource for property that cannot be sold for a significant return
FNS 390.15, L, M, and O	Sections have been updated to reflect the new certain payments of funds for certain Indian Tribes resource amounts
FNS 390.16, E:3	Section has been updated to reflect the new resource amounts in the example for new maximum disqualification period
FNS 390.20, A	Section has been updated to reflect the new lottery/gambling winnings amount
FNS 390.20, B:1	Section has been updated to reflect the new lottery/gambling winnings amount
FNS 500 Simplified Reporting Category	
FNS 500.03 and 3: a	Sections have been updated to reflect the new lottery/gambling winning amount
FNS 600 Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)	
FNS 600.08 7: g	Section has been updated to reflect the new lottery/gambling winning amount

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

These changes are effective with all applications, changes, and recertifications on and after October 1, 2024. Attached are notices in both English and Spanish along with a document of the seven languages with information on how the notice can be translated. Notice to Food and Nutrition Services Recipients English/Spanish NC DHHS Multilanguage Notice – DSS-8567 must be displayed in all areas of the agency viewable by the general public from the date received through October 31, 2024.

If you have any questions, please submit them to the Continuous Quality Improvement Specialist (CQIS) dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Madhu Vulimiri". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Madhu Vulimiri, MPP
Deputy Director
Division of Child and Family Well-Being

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