

**N. C. Division of Aging and Adult Services Administrative Letter No. 15-09  
Adult Services Section**

**Date:** June 30, 2015

**Subject:** FNS Benefits and the SA/IH Program  
SA/IH Case Management Manual

**Distribution:** County Department of Social Services Directors  
Adult Services Supervisors

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2015

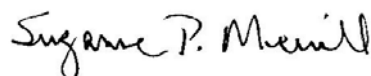
The purpose of this Administrative Letter is to provide updated policies and procedures for use in determining countable resources when conducting economic assessments in the SA/IH Program. Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefits cannot be counted as income or a resource when determining the need for or amount of an SA/IH payment. Federal regulations prohibit FNS benefits from consideration when determining eligibility for a public benefit program or from being used in any way that might impact the amount of assistance an individual will receive from a public benefit program. While it is helpful to discuss with the individual how much is spent on groceries, and if he/she feels that more food is needed when looking at the need for an SA/IH payment, the social work case manager may not specifically ask about FNS benefits. The federal regulation is listed below for your information.

**Federal regulation: Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  
VALUE OF ALLOTMENT; SEC. 8. [7 U.S.C. 2017]**

*(b) The value of benefits that may be provided under this Act shall not be considered income or resources for any purpose under any Federal, State, or local laws, including, but not limited to, laws relating to taxation, welfare, and public assistance programs, and no participating State or political subdivision thereof shall decrease any assistance otherwise provided an individual or individuals because of the receipt of benefits under this Act.*

Effective July 1, 2015, do not document the FNS benefit on the SA/IH Economic Worksheet. If you have questions about this change, please send them to the Adult Services List Serve at [DAAS.AdultServices@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:DAAS.AdultServices@dhhs.nc.gov) or contact Chris Urso, SA Program Administrator at 919-855-3461.

Sincerely,



Suzanne P. Merrill, Director

SPM:lc/cu