



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services

January 5, 2021

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: January 2021 Automated Supplements for active FNS households

Priority: For Information

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On March 18, 2020 the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 was signed to provide for the issuance of emergency allotment supplements based on a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID-19 when a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration. NC DHHS elected to take this option and previously issued FNS supplements up to the maximum of the household's monthly benefit amount for March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December 2020. In addition, NC DHHS has accepted the opportunity provided by the United States Department of Agriculture to supplement January 2021 benefits up to the maximum of the household's monthly benefit amount.

II. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

A. AUTOMATED SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS:

Automated supplements will be issued for January 2021 to all FNS recipients in North Carolina up to the maximum allotment for their household size using the following guidelines:

1. The supplement is the difference between the household's actual January 2021 benefits and the maximum allotment for their household size.

Example: A household of 3 received an allotment of \$200 for January 2021. The maximum allotment for a household of 3 is \$509. The household will be issued a supplement of \$309 ($\$509 - \$200 = \309) for the month of January 2021.

2. Households that have already received the maximum allotment for their household size will not receive a supplement.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Example: A household of 4 received an allotment of \$646 for January 2021. The maximum allotment for a household of 4 is \$646. The household will not be issued a supplement for the month of January 2021 because they have already received the maximum allotment for their household size.

3. The household size will not include ineligible and disqualified members.

Example: A household of 3, including one ineligible member, received an allotment of \$100 for the month of January 2021. The maximum allotment for a household size of 2 is \$355. The household would be issued a supplement of \$255 ($\$355 - \$100 = \255) for the month of January 2021.

4. Households that were ineligible in January 2021 will not receive a supplement for the month as they were ineligible.
5. Households that were eligible for a prorated allotment of \$0 in January 2021 will receive a supplement for the prorated month.

Example: A household of 3 received a prorated allotment of \$0 for January 2021. The maximum allotment for a household of 3 is \$509. The household will be issued a supplement of \$509 ($\$509 - \$0 = \509) for the month of January 2021.

B. NC FAST SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE:

NC FAST will automatically issue the January supplements to active FNS households beginning January 22, 2021. The supplements will be randomly generated and staggered every workday until all households have been supplemented. For all applications and recertifications approved subsequent to the January supplement dates, NC FAST will continue to run weekly batches to ensure they are supplemented to the max allotment for January 2021.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective January 22, 2021 for all FNS households that are active in January 2021. Submit any questions regarding this policy to Operational Support Team (OST) at DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



David Locklear, Deputy Director

DL/rc

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