

NOTICE TO FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES RECIPIENTS

Effective October 1, 2018

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has made several changes to the Food and Nutrition Services Program, one or more of the following changes may affect the amount of benefits you receive, effective October 1, 2018:

- Allotment amounts (Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA))
- Maximum gross and net income limits (Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA))
- Excess shelter expense deduction (Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA))
- Standard deduction (Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA))
- Utility deduction (Standard Utility Allowance, Basis Utility Allowance and Telephone Utility Allowance adjustments)
- Rounding calculation for income and allotment amounts (Basis of Issuance Table (BOI))

You have the right to a fair hearing of your case if you do not agree with our decision. You can request a fair hearing by letting your local county department of social services know of your request. You may request the hearing in person, by telephone, or in writing. The hearing may be requested by any member of your Food and Nutrition Services unit or by your representative, including an attorney obtained at your own expense. Free legal advice may be available. Contact your nearest Legal Services Office.

You have 90 calendar days from October 1, 2018 to ask for a hearing. Unless you ask for a hearing by 12/30/2018, you cannot have one.

To find out what your benefits are, call Customer Service at 1-888-622-7328 on the day you normally receive benefits.

If you have any other questions about these changes, contact your local Department of Social Services.