



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

April 20, 2021

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Extended Temporary 15% increase in Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) monthly benefits

Priority: Information Only

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 signed to provide a 15% increase to the Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) maximum allotments January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021. The maximum benefit level will revert back to the Fiscal Year 2021 benefit allotments effective October 1, 2021. The benefit increase is a mass change and does not require a notice of adverse action to implement.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

- A. NC FAST will calculate the new allotment automatically for any benefits issued between January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 using the increased 15% maximum allotment. SNAP households that were issued supplements up to the maximum January 2021 through May 2021 will have already received the 15% increase. Starting June 2021 SNAP households will receive the following:
- The higher benefit allotment \$105 will increase to \$135.
 - The lower benefit allotment \$60 will increase to \$90.
- B. This change is considered a mass change and individual notices will not be issued. A mass notice will be issued to notify SNAP households of the change. 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. These notices and document must be displayed in all areas of the agency viewable by the general public and on the agency website from the date received through September 30, 2021.
- C. Program Integrity:

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

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
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www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

The 15% increase may **not** be included in any overpayments established for benefit periods between January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

Example: An overpayment is established for April 2021. The household of one received \$135.

1. Calculate the amount the SNAP unit would have received minus the 15% increase. In this example it would have been \$105 (the maximum prior to the 15% increase).
2. Calculate the correct amount the SNAP unit would have received if information was correct. In this example the SNAP unit was a one-person household and should have received \$60.
3. The overpayment is the difference in the two amounts. $\$105 - \$60 = \$45$.
4. Do not recoup the \$45 that was issued as a result of the temporary 15% increase.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

The changes are effective with all benefits issued for months between January 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021.

Submit any questions regarding this information to the Operational Support Team (OST) at dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Carla West, Senior Director for Economic Security
Economic and Family Services Section

CLW/vd

Attachments (5)

Notice to Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) Recipients

Notice to Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)(Spanish) Recipients

Language Notice (seven languages)

Desk Reference effective January 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021

Desk Reference Spanish effective January 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021

EFS-FNSEP-41-2021