



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 27, 2021

**Dear County Directors of Social Services**

**Attention:** Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

**Subject:** Minimum Automated Supplements for active FNS households

**Priority:** Information and Action

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act authorized emergency allotments to Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) households to help address temporary food needs during the pandemic.

Since March 2020, SNAP households have received Automated Supplements in an amount equal to the maximum benefit for the household size, minus their regular monthly benefit. This means households that are at or near the maximum FNS benefit received little or no additional support.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a memorandum on April 1, 2021 that provided guidance that all eligible household must receive a minimum Automated Supplement of \$95.

**II. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**A. AUTOMATED SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS:**

The supplement due to the COVID-19 pandemic for all eligible households must be at least \$95. Caseworkers are not required to take any action. The minimum supplement will be calculated and issued systematically by NC FAST.

- Households are not eligible for the minimum emergency allotment if their emergency allotment is already \$95 or greater. These households will not receive any additional benefits.

Example: Household's regular allotment amount is \$16.00; their maximum allotment is \$186.00. The household is issued a supplement of \$170. They would not be eligible for any additional funds as the supplement is already greater than \$95.

**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  
MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420  
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

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Maximum allotment	\$186
Minus Regular allotment	\$16
Difference	<u>\$170</u>

The household will receive supplement of \$170.

- If the household's supplement is less than \$95, then they must be increased to the minimum of \$95.

Example: Household's regular allotment amount is \$180.00; their maximum allotment is \$186.00. The household is issued a supplement of \$6. Because the difference is less than \$95 the household must receive an additional \$89 supplement to ensure they meet the minimum of \$95.

Maximum allotment	\$186
Minus Regular allotment	\$180
Difference	<u>\$6</u>

The household will receive supplement(s) totaling \$95

- Households who were already at the maximum allotment and did not get a supplement, must receive \$95 in emergency allotment.

Example: Household's regular allotment amount is \$234. The household has received the maximum allotment. The difference is \$0. Since the difference is less than \$95, the household must receive an emergency allotment of \$95.

Maximum allotment	\$234
Minus Regular allotment	\$234
Difference	<u>\$0</u>

The household will receive supplement(s) totaling \$95

## B. NOTICE

This change is considered a mass change and individual notices will not be issued. A mass notice will be issued to notify FNS households of the change. Attached are notices in both English and Spanish. These notices must be displayed in all areas of the agency viewable by the general public and on the agency website from the date received through June 30, 2021.

## C. NC FAST SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE:

NC FAST will automatically issue the supplements to active FNS households per instructions found in Dear County Director Letter EFS-FNSEP-24-2021.

## III. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective April 1, 2021 for all FNS households that receive COVID-19 Pandemic emergency supplements in April 2021 ongoing. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Operational Support Team (OST) at [DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla West".

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

CLW/rc

**Attachments (2)**

Minimum Supplement Public Notice

Minimum Supplement Public Notice Spanish

**EFS-FNSEP-46-2021**