



Department of Human Resources  
311 West Saratoga Street  
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration  
**ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

Control Number: 03-11

Effective Date: October 1, 2002

Issuance Date: August 28, 2002

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT  
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

**FROM: CHARLES E. HENRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**RE: INCREASE IN THE RESOURCE LIMIT FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH  
DISABLED MEMBERS**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS**

**SUMMARY:**

On May 13, 2002, President Bush signed Public Law 107-171, which includes the Food Stamp Program reauthorization. A number of provisions in the law affect the Food Stamp Program. This action transmittal is one of several that you will receive about policy changes resulting from this federal legislation.

This action transmittal provides information about an increase in the resource limit for households that include a disabled member.

**NEW POLICY:**

Food stamp households that include a disabled member can retain assets/resources valued at \$3,000 or less. This matches the resource limit for households that include an elderly member.

**Example:**

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are applying for food stamps. Mr. Smith receives Social Security Disability benefits. They have \$2,950 in a savings account. The household's resources are within limits.

◆ For the purposes of this policy, a disabled household member is:

1. A person who receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) under title XVI of the Social Security Act.

Note: The SSI resource limit is \$2,000, so there will be few situations where an SSI recipient has resources over that amount. If an SSI household is found to have resources that are over the \$2,000 SSI limit but below the \$3,000 food stamp limit, there is no effect on food stamp eligibility. Narrate the case record thoroughly.

2. A person who receives federally or State administered supplemental assistance of the type described in section 1616(a) of the Social Security Act, interim assistance pending receipt of SSI, disability-related medical assistance (TEMHA and DEAP/TCA), or disability-related general assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act.

**Individuals who receive Public Assistance to Adults (PAA) and TEMHA recipients who receive Medical Assistance fall under this category.**

3. A person who receives disability or blindness payments under title I, II, X, XIV, or XVI of the Social Security Act or receives disability retirement benefits from a governmental agency because the disability is considered permanent under section 221(i) of the Social Security Act
4. A person who receives an annuity under section 2(a)(1)(iv) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 and is determined eligible to receive Medicare by the Railroad Retirement Board; or section 2(a)(1)(v) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 and is determined to be disabled based upon criteria under title XVI of the Social Security Act.
5. A veteran who:
  - (a) Has a service connected or non-service-connected disability that is rated total, or
  - (b) Is considered in need of regular aid and attendance or permanently housebound as determined by the Veteran's Administration (VA).
6. A surviving spouse of a veteran and:
  - (a) Is considered in need of regular aid and attendance or permanently housebound as determined by the VA, or
  - (b) Is entitled to compensation for a service-connected death or pension benefits for a non-service-connected death under title 38, United States Code, and has a disability considered permanent

7. A child of a veteran and:

- (a) Is considered permanently incapable of self-support as determined by the VA,  
or
- (b) Is entitled to compensation for a service-connected death or pension benefits  
for a non-service-connected death under title 38, United States Code, and  
has a disability considered permanent.

**ACTION DUE:**

This policy is effective with applications or any case action on or after October 1, 2002.

**INQUIRIES:**

Please direct policy questions to Kay Finegan at 410-767-7939 or Marilyn Lorenzo at 410-767-7333.

cc: FIA Management Staff  
Constituent Services  
DHR Help Desk  
RESI

## **CARES**

The case manager will enter the household's assets on CARES according to current procedures. CARES will determine the appropriate asset level.

The following chart summarizes the benefits and their corresponding CARES codes that will allow households the increased asset/resource limit.

### **DISABLED HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ELIGIBLE FOR THE RESOURCE INCREASE**

<b>DISABLED HH MEMBER RECEIVES:</b>	<b>DISABILITY SOURCE CODE (DEM2)</b>	<b>UNEARNED INCOME CODE (UINC)</b>
<b>SSI Benefits</b>	<b>SS</b>	<b>SI, RB</b>
<b>Federal/State administered supplemental assistance, interim assistance</b>	<b>MS</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Social Security disability Benefits (Title I, II, X, XIV, or XVI)</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>SA</b>
<b>Railroad Retirement Benefits</b>	<b>RR</b>	<b>RR</b>
<b>Veterans Benefits (including a surviving spouse)</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>VA</b>