



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

FIA ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: 01-11

Effective Date: October 1, 2000

Issuance Date: September 1, 2000

TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS/CASE MANAGERS

FROM: *Charles Henry*
CHARLES HENRY, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE AND FOOD STAMP MASS
CHANGE - OCTOBER 2000

PROGRAM AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE and FOOD STAMPS

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY:

Each October, the United States Department of Agriculture publishes a new Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) on which food stamp program allotments are based. The net and gross monthly income standards increase effective October 1, 2000. The maximum food stamp allotments and excess shelter deduction also increase. The standard deduction and homeless shelter allowance are unchanged.

The Welfare Innovation Act of 1996 requires that the total of Temporary Cash Assistance and Food Stamps be at least 61 percent of the established Minimum Living Level. The established minimum living level for Federal Fiscal Year 2001 is \$1,278 for a family of three. On October 1, 2000 a 5.276 percent payment increase for Temporary Cash Assistance applicants and recipients is in effect. The key dates for actions related to the benefit increase for this program are noted below.

ACTION REQUIRED:

The mass change will run September 16-17, 2000. Customer notices for increases or decreases will be generated at the time of mass change. All grant changes and new recoupment amounts require no action by the case manager. The only exceptions are recoupment cases where the payment plan source is grant reduction (GR) or court order (CO). These cases must be updated manually. A report identifying these cases will be distributed.

I. TCA

- Implementation of the 5.276% Payment Increase

1. Apply the increased payment amounts effective October 1, 2000. See Attachment.
2. Use the new payment amounts for financial eligibility decisions made in September for October grants. This includes interim changes, recertifications and recoupment cases.

II. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

- The Food Stamp program excess shelter cap increases to \$300. Many food stamp allotment amounts will be reduced as a result of the increase in TCA grants.
- The standard deduction will remain at \$134.
- The homeless shelter allowance will remain at \$143. Households in which all members are homeless but are not receiving free shelter are entitled to the standard homeless shelter allowance of \$143. Allow actual shelter expenses, instead of the homeless shelter allowance, if the actual shelter costs would be higher under the excess shelter calculation. The changes to the income standards include the following revisions which are effective October 1, 2000:

	Maximum Gross Monthly Income* 130% of Poverty	Maximum Net Monthly Income* 100% Of Poverty	Monthly Income Elderly/Disabled Separate HH* 165% of Poverty	Maximum Allotment Thrifty Food Plan
HH Size	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D
1	\$ 905	\$ 696	\$1,149	\$ 130
2	1,219	938	1,547	238
3	1,533	1,180	1,946	341
4	1,848	1,421	2,345	434
5	2,162	1,663	2,744	515
6	2,476	1,905	3,142	618
7	2,790	2,146	3,541	683
8	3,104	2,388	3,940	781
Each Additional Member +	315	+242	+399	+98

* Maximum gross and net monthly income figures are not used for computing the food stamp allotment. They are included as a reference for determining the household's eligibility.

III. ATTACHMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

- The FIP Schedule, Schedule R and Schedule X are attached for your information.
- Basis of Issuance Tables and revised food stamp manual pages are attached. Please replace previous Tables and manual pages with these attachments.

ACTION DUE:

Effective October 1, 2000.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct TCA policy inquiries to Edna McAbier at 410.767.7495, Food Stamp policy inquiries to Kay Finegan at 410.767.7939 and Systems inquiries to Theresa Holmes 410.238.1303.

Attachments: FIP Schedule
Schedule R
Schedule X
Food Stamp Manual Section 600 Pages 1 & 2
Basis of Issuance Tables

cc: DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk

F I P S c h e d u l e

Monthly Allowable Amounts To Be Paid

Effective: October 1, 2000

A	B	C *
Family Size	Allowable Payment	5 0 % Poverty Level
1	\$195	\$348
2	346	469
3	439	590
4	530	711
5	614	832
6	675	953
7	760	1,073
8	836	1,194
9	902	1,315
10	972	1,436
11	1,044	1,557
12	1,114	1,678
13	1,184	1,799
14	1,252	1,920
15	1,324	2,041
16	\$1,409	\$2,162
Each Person More Than 16	Add \$ 72	Add \$ 121

" 50% Poverty Level " updated to reflect Federal Poverty Levels
effective April 1, 2000.

TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE: SCHEDULE - X

COMAR 07.03.03.13

EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 1, 2000

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	\$195	189	182	176	169	163	156	150	143	137	130	124	117	111	104
2	346	334	323	311	300	288	277	265	254	242	231	219	208	196	185
3	439	424	410	395	380	366	351	337	322	307	293	278	263	249	234
4	530	512	495	477	459	442	424	406	389	371	353	336	318	300	283
5	614	594	573	553	532	512	491	471	450	430	409	389	368	348	327
6	675	653	630	608	585	563	540	518	495	473	450	428	405	383	360
7	760	735	709	684	659	633	608	583	557	532	507	481	456	431	405
8	836	808	780	752	725	697	669	641	613	585	557	529	502	474	446
9	902	872	842	812	782	752	722	692	661	631	601	571	541	511	481
10	971	939	906	874	842	809	777	744	712	680	647	615	583	550	518
11	1,044	1,009	974	940	905	870	835	800	766	731	696	661	626	592	557
12	1,114	1,077	1,040	1,003	965	928	891	854	817	780	743	706	668	631	594
13	1,183	1,144	1,104	1,065	1,025	986	946	907	868	828	789	749	710	670	631
14	1,252	1,210	1,169	1,127	1,085	1,043	1,002	960	918	876	835	793	751	709	668
15	1,324	1,280	1,236	1,192	1,147	1,103	1,059	1,015	971	927	883	839	794	750	706
16	\$1,408	1,361	1,314	1,267	1,220	1,173	1,126	1,079	1,033	986	939	892	845	798	751

	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	\$98	91	85	78	72	65	59	52	46	39	33	26	20	13	7
2	173	161	150	138	127	115	104	92	81	69	58	46	35	23	12
3	220	205	190	176	161	146	132	117	102	88	73	59	44	29	15
4	265	247	230	212	194	177	159	141	124	106	88	71	53	35	18
5	307	287	266	246	225	205	184	164	143	123	102	82	61	41	20
6	338	315	293	270	248	225	203	180	158	135	113	90	68	45	23
7	380	355	329	304	279	253	228	203	177	152	127	101	76	51	25
8	418	390	362	334	307	279	251	223	195	167	139	111	84	56	28
9	451	421	391	361	331	301	271	241	210	180	150	120	90	60	30
10	486	453	421	388	356	324	291	259	227	194	162	129	97	65	32
11	522	487	452	418	383	348	313	278	244	209	174	139	104	70	35
12	557	520	483	446	408	371	334	297	260	223	186	149	111	74	37
13	592	552	513	473	434	394	355	315	276	237	197	158	118	79	39
14	626	584	543	501	459	417	376	334	292	250	209	167	125	83	42
15	662	618	574	530	485	441	397	353	309	265	221	177	132	88	44
16	\$704	657	610	563	516	469	422	375	329	282	235	188	141	94	47

SCHEDULE - R

Effective: October 1, 2000

A	B	C	D
Family Size	Allowable Payment	90 %	Available Recoupment
1	\$195	\$176	\$19
2	346	312	34
3	439	396	43
4	530	477	53
5	614	553	61
6	675	608	67
7	760	684	76
8	836	753	83
9	902	812	90
10	971	874	97
11	1,044	940	104
12	1,114	1,003	111
13	1,183	1,065	118
14	1,252	1,127	125
15	1,324	1,192	132
16	\$1,408	\$1,268	\$140
Each Person More Than 16	Add \$ 72	Calculate 90% of Col.- B	Calculate 10% of Col.- B

NOTE: When a family receiving Food Stamps is also subject to recoupment, a "double" adjustment applies to the determination of income to be used in the Food Stamp computation.