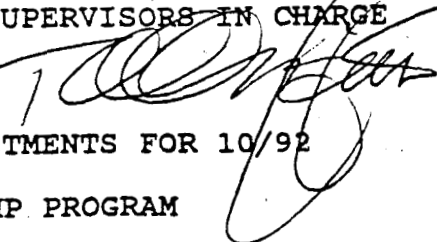


DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES INCOME MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATION 11 W. Saratoga Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201	<b>I M A   A C T I O N   T R A N S M I T T A L</b>	
	EFFECTIVE DATE:	10/1/92
ISSUANCE DATE: 9/3/92	CONTROL NUMBER:	OPDA-93-09

TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR INCOME MAINTENANCE  
INCOME MAINTENANCE SUPERVISORS IN CHARGE

FROM: TIMOTHY W. GRIFFITH 

RE: COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR 10/92

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OPDA/FOOD STAMP DIVISION

**BACKGROUND**

Food Stamp Program cost of living adjustments occur annually, to be effective the first of October of each year, as mandated by federal statute. This normally requires some reprogramming to AIMS to update the allotment tables, the eligibility income standards and certain deductions. Allotment amounts and the other cost of living adjustments are tied to market basket prices for certain food items. Then the cost of these items is used to compute the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) which is the basis for the food stamp allotment tables. This year is different because the cost of the market basket items used to compute the TFP have actually decreased which would have resulted in a decrease in allotments. A special bill was introduced and quickly passed through both the House and the Senate which will keep allotments the same as last year. Eligibility income standards and certain deductions will increase effective October 1, 1992.

**NEW INFORMATION**

DEDUCTIONS

Standard Deduction	\$ 127
Shelter Deduction for Homeless Households	132
Shelter Deduction (all other households)	200



Ref: 7 CFR

Section Title

STANDARDS FOR INCOME AND DEDUCTIONS

Section

Page

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Standards for Eligibility and Thrifty Food Plan

- A. The standards for the following appear at 15 IMA 600.1.
  - (1) Column A - Maximum Gross Monthly Income (135 percent of poverty).
  - (2) Column B - Maximum Net Income (100 percent of poverty).
  - (3) Column C - Maximum Gross Income (165 percent of poverty) for an elderly or disabled person (and spouse) living and eating with others as a separate household in accordance with 15 IMA 109.10
  - (4) Column D - Thrifty Food Plan
- B. Standards (1), (2) and (3) above are used to determine household eligibility and not for computing the coupon allotments.

Formula Calculation

- A. Multiply the household's net monthly income by 30 percent. Round the product up to the next whole dollar if any cents result.
- B. Subtract the product from the Thrifty Food Plan amount found in Column D 600.1. If the result is \$1, \$3, or \$5 round up to \$2, \$4, or \$6 respectively. If the allotment is for a 1 or 2 person household, it must be a minimum of \$10.

Deduction Standards

- A. The following are the deduction standards per household unless otherwise specified:

Standard Deduction .....	\$ 122
*Excess Shelter Deduction up to (See B below) .....	\$ 194
Dependent Child are deductions for each dependent up to .....	\$ 160
Dependent Elderly or Disabled Care Deductions for each dependent up to .....	\$ 160
Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) (See 610.4) .....	\$ 150
Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) (See 610.4) .....	\$ 90
Telephone Standard (See 610.5) .....	\$ 20

- B. The cap on excess shelter does not apply to households with an aged or disabled member. these households receive an uncapped excess shelter deduction.

10/91 - 9/92



BASIS OF ISSUANCE AND ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

BASIS OF ISSUANCE AND ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

A. To determine a household's food stamp coupon allotment using the Basis of Coupon Issuance Tables:

- (1) Calculate the household's net monthly income.
- (2) Compare the household's net income to the maximum allowable net monthly income standard, Column B below.
- (3) A household which is not categorically eligible is not entitled to benefits if its monthly net income exceeds the amount in Column B. A 1 or 2 person household categorically eligible is entitled to a benefit of at least \$10 even if the tables do not show a benefit amount. All other categorically eligible households are entitled to the benefit shown on the tables. To alert you to those benefits which are limited to categorically eligible households, parallel lines have been drawn on each side of these benefits. The Column B value is also footnoted in the tables.

Household Size	COLUMN A Maximum Gross Monthly Income	COLUMN B Maximum Net Monthly Income	COLUMN C Maximum Gross Monthly Income for Separate Household Status	COLUMN D Thrifty Food Plan
1	\$ 718	\$ 552	\$ 911	\$ 111
2	\$ 962	\$ 740	\$ 1221	\$ 203
3	\$ 1207	\$ 929	\$ 1532	\$ 292
4	\$ 1452	\$ 1117	\$ 1843	\$ 370
5	\$ 1697	\$ 1305	\$ 2154	\$ 440
6	\$ 1942	\$ 1494	\$ 2464	\$ 528
7	\$ 2187	\$ 1682	\$ 2775	\$ 584
8	\$ 2431	\$ 1870	\$ 3397	\$ 667
9	\$ 2676	\$ 2059	\$ 3708	\$ 750
10	\$ 2921	\$ 2248	\$ 4019	\$ 833
Each Additional Member	\$ +245	\$ +189	\$ +311	\$ +83

B. A household not categorically eligible and without an elderly or disabled member must meet both the gross and net standards in columns A and B. A household not categorically eligible with an elderly or disabled member has to meet only the net standard of Column B. Column B is 100 percent of the poverty level and Column A is 130 percent. Column C applies to the separate household status of an elderly or disabled person (and spouse) living and eating with others whose income does not exceed 165 percent of the poverty level. (See 109.10)

FORMULA COMPUTATION

The formula method of computing the household's allotment is found at 610.2.