



CDSS

JOHN A. WAGNER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

May 19, 2009

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-38-09

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL DISASTER FOOD STAMP PROGRAM
COORDINATORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIA PROJECT MANAGERS
ALL COUNTY EBT PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: DISASTER GUIDANCE ATTACHMENT- DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL
NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM/DISASTER FOOD STAMP
PROGRAM INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS AND ALLOTMENTS
EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2009

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

This letter is to inform counties that the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has issued a new Disaster Guidance Attachment effective April 1, 2009. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 that was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009, created a 13.6 percent temporary increase in the food stamp benefit allotments, among other provisions. The temporary benefit increase also applies to the Disaster Food Stamp Program (DFSP) Income Eligibility Standards and Allotments that are effective April 1, 2009. The Disaster Guidance Attachment can be accessed at:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/disasters/response/D-SNAP_Handbook/2009-income_standards.pdf

The following provision of the ARRA will also apply to DFSP benefits:

- The increased DFSP benefit amount for a household will not be considered in an overissuance determination.

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Please note that the DFSP Income Eligibility Standards remain the same. The maximum shelter deduction is \$446 and the standard deduction is between \$144 and \$197, depending on household size. For more information, please reference All-County Information Notice I-72-08. Additional instructions will be forthcoming shortly on how to disregard the ARRA benefit increase in the calculation of a DFSP overissuance.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Kristin Brinks of the Food Stamp Branch at (916) 654-1435.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

CHRISTINE WEBB-CURTIS
Food Stamp Branch Chief
Welfare to Work Division