

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



November 16, 2000

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-110-00

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
FOOD STAMP PROGRAM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: DISASTER FOOD STAMP PROGRAM HANDBOOK UPDATES

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

This letter transmits revised reproducible pages to the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, "Disaster Food Stamp Program Handbook". The revisions to affected pages reflect increases in resource, income, and disaster food stamp allotment amounts. The revised pages replace documents found in the EXHIBITS section of the handbook as follows:

EXHIBIT A,

Page 2 of item titled "Disaster Food Stamps, Fact Sheet"

EXHIBIT E, Items titled:

- a) "Food Stamp Program October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001 (previously dated October 1, 1999 – September 30, 2000)
- b) "Food Stamp Program – Monthly Allotments and Deductions"
- c) "Eligibility Verification Chart," page 1.

Food Stamp Program Coordinators will receive an extra copy of this letter for forwarding their county's Food Stamp Program Disaster Coordinator. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Varaniece Hall of the Food Stamp Bureau at (916) 657-3500.

Original Document Signed By

GARY SWANSON, Chief
Food Stamp Branch

Attachments (4)

damage to a home or property necessary for work, temporary shelter expenses, expenses for moving out of an evacuated area, expenses related to protecting a home or business from the disaster, and expenses due to a disaster-related injury or death. The limits for household income and cash resource, minus disaster expenses, for a month are:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Income and Resources</u>
1	\$1,130
2	1,372
3	1,614
4	1,855
5	2,097
6	2,339
7	2,580
8	2,822

You will be asked to provide the social security number for household members if known.

RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS: If you are eligible, you should get food stamps within 3 days after you apply. You may get food stamps in one of several ways:

- the food stamp office may give or mail the food stamps directly to you,
- you may be given (or receive in the mail) a paper or card you can take to a bank or other place to get your food stamps, or
- you may be given a plastic card that you can use to buy food.

This varies by area.

The amount of benefits a household gets depends on the number of people in the household.

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Food Stamp For a Month</u>
1	\$130
2	238
3	341
4	434
5	515
6	618
7	683
8	781

Food stamps come in books worth different amounts. A household member should sign each coupon book.

USING FOOD STAMPS: You may use food stamps in any store that takes them. Most grocery stores take food stamps. You can only use food stamps to buy food or to buy seeds or plants for a garden to grow food for your own use. You cannot buy alcoholic drinks, tobacco, vitamins, toilet paper, or paper towels with food stamps. It is a very serious crime to sell your coupons for cash or drugs.

You must have the book cover to spend food stamps worth more than \$1. The store will give you change (in food stamps or up to \$1 in cash change) if you do not have the exact amount you need.

NONDISCRIMINATION: If you think you have not been treated fairly because of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, religious creed, or political beliefs, you should write to the USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Rm. 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th & Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C.

CALIFORNIA

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2000 SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

Net Monthly Income Eligibility Standards
(100 Percent of Poverty Level)

Household
Size

1	\$ 696
2	938
3	1,180
4	1,421
5	1,663
6	1,905
7	2,146
8	2,388
Each Add. Member	+242

Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards
(130 Percent of Poverty Level)

Household
Size

1	\$ 905
2	1,219
3	1,533
4	1,848
5	2,162
6	2,476
7	2,790
8	3,104
Each Add. Member	+315

Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards For Households
Where Elderly Disabled Are A Separate Household
(165 Percent of Poverty Level)

Household
Size

1	\$1,149
2	1,547
3	1,946
4	2,345
5	2,744
6	3,142
7	3,541
8	3,940
Each Add. Member	+399

CALIFORNIA

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM--MONTHLY ALLOTMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS
OCTOBER 2000 - SEPTEMBER 2001

MAXIMUM FOOD STAMP ALLOTMENTS

HOUSEHOLD SIZE

1	\$ 130
2	\$ 238
3	\$ 341
4	\$ 434
5	\$ 515
6	\$ 618
7	\$ 683
8	\$ 781
Each Additional Person	\$ 98

DEDUCTIONS

<u>AREA</u>	<u>STANDARD DEDUCTION</u>
CALIFORNIA	\$ 134

<u>AREA</u>	<u>SHELTER DEDUCTIONS</u>
CALIFORNIA	\$ 300

<u>AREA</u>	<u>HOMELESS HOUSEHOLD SHELTER ESTIMATE</u>
CALIFORNIA	\$143

Eligibility/Verification Chart (48 States and D.C.)

Requirement	The Household
Residency	<p>Must have been living in the disaster area at the time of the disaster.</p> <p>May be eligible if it is temporarily living outside of the disaster area but within the state at the time of the disaster.</p>
Purchase Food	Must plan on purchasing food during the benefit period.
Adverse Affect	<p>Must have experienced at least one of the following adverse effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of food, coupons or ATPs • damage to or destruction of the household's home or self-employment business (e.g., complete destruction, loss of roof or walls, destruction of heating equipment). • disaster related (expenses not expected to be reimbursed during the benefit period (e.g., home/business protection, disaster related personal injury; including funeral expenses). • loss or inaccessibility of income including reduction or termination of income or a delay in receipt of income for half the benefit period. • Inaccessible liquid resources (e.g., banks are closed).
Income and Resource test	Total income received during the disaster benefit period, plus accessible liquid resources , minus certain disaster-related expenses shall not exceed the disaster gross income limit .

Household Size	Disaster Gross Income Limit ¹	Maximum Allotment
1	1130	130
2	1372	238
3	1614	341
4	1855	434
5	2097	515
6	2339	618
7	2580	683
8	2822	781
Each Additional Member	+242	+98

ALIFORNIA

¹ These figures include all necessary calculations (e.g., calculation for 1 person household: maximum net monthly income = \$696; standard deduction = \$134; shelter deduction = \$300; 696 + 134 + 300 = 1130)