



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

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

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

August 20, 2018

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-54-18

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS
ALL QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: CALFRESH COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2018.

REFERENCE: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE 19-01; APPROVAL OF CALIFORNIA'S SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INDIVIDUAL UTILITY ALLOWANCES DATED JULY 27, 2018, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2018.

This notice informs County Welfare Departments (CWDs) that the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has issued the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) for the period of October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019.

Maximum Allotments

Maximum allotments may be adjusted by FNS annually on October 1 to account for changes in the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan. The maximum allotments by household size are listed in the table below:

FFY 2018 Maximum Allotment by Household Size:								+Each Additional Person
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
\$192	\$353	\$505	\$642	\$762	\$914	\$1,011	\$1,155	\$144

Maximum Shelter Deduction

The maximum shelter deduction for households without elderly or disabled members for FFY 2019 increased from \$535 to \$552. (ATTACHMENT I)

Homeless Household Shelter Allowance

The homeless household shelter allowance will remain the same in FFY 2019 at \$143. (ATTACHMENT I)

Standard Deduction

The standard deduction for a household of 1 to 3 persons has changed as the chart indicates below. The standard deduction for a household with 1 to 3 persons changed from \$160 to \$164 a month. (ATTACHMENT I)

Standard Deductions for FFY 2018:

Household Size	Standard Deductions
1 to 3 persons	\$164
4 persons	\$174
5 persons	\$204
6 or more persons	\$234

Standard Utility Allowance (SUA)

Effective October 1, 2018, the SUA amount increased from \$397 to \$415 for FFY 2019. A household that has heating and cooling costs separate from their rent or mortgage is eligible for the SUA.

Limited Utility Allowance (LUA)

Effective October 1, 2018, the LUA amount increased from \$126 to \$130 for FFY 2018. A household that does not qualify for the SUA, but incurs expenses for at least two separate utilities other than heating and cooling, is eligible for the LUA.

Telephone Utility Allowance (TUA)

Effective October 1, 2018, the TUA amount has remained the same at \$18 for FFY 2019. A household that is not eligible for the SUA or LUA, but incurs a telephone expense, or an expense for an equivalent form of communication, is eligible to receive a TUA.

Income Eligibility Standards

Income Eligibility standards are listed in ATTACHMENT I, which includes charts displaying the “Net and Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards,” “Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards for Households Where Elderly/Disabled Are a Separate

Household” and “Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards for Modified Categorical Eligibility (MCE)/Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE).”

Tables of Benefit Issuance

To request a copy of the bracketed issuance tables effective October 1, 2018, please send an e-mail request to William Belon at William.Belon@dss.ca.gov.

Stuffer Notice

The CF 11 (ENG/SP) CalFresh mass change notice, has been updated and is included as an attachment to this All County Information Notices. The CF 11 informs clients about changes in CalFresh allotments, as well as displaying the SUA/LUA/TUA deduction amounts. Prior to duplication, CWDs must ensure that the CF 11 notice contains the county-specific address that clients should use to mail state hearing requests.

In accordance with the Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) Section 63-504.39, CWDs must inform all households on or before October 1, 2017, of the new CalFresh benefit amounts and deductions. CWDs may opt to use the CF 11 or can notify households via a news or media outlet in addition to posting the information in certification offices, issuance locations or other sites frequented by certified households. **Households must be informed of the changes no later than October 1, 2018.**

Camera Ready Copies and Translations

For a camera-ready copy in English, contact the [CDSS Forms Management Unit](#) at fmudds@dss.ca.gov. You may obtain these forms from the [CDSS webpage](#) at: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Forms-Brochures/Forms-by-Program>.

When all translations are completed per [MPP §21-115.2](#), they are posted on an on-going basis on the CDSS webpage. Copies of the [translated forms](#) can be obtained at: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Translated-Forms-and-Publications>.

For questions on translated materials, please contact the CDSS Language and Services at (916) 651-8876. Until translations are available, recipients who have elected to receive materials in languages other than English should be sent the English version of the form or notice along with the [GEN 1365 – Notice of Language Services](#) and a local contact number (<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/forms/Multi/GEN1365MUL.pdf>).

The CWDs shall ensure that effective bilingual services are provided. This requirement may be met through utilization of paid interpreters, qualified bilingual employees, and qualified employees of other agencies or community resources. These services shall

be provided, free of charge, to the applicant/recipient. In the event that CDSS does not provide translations of a form, it is the CWD's responsibility to provide interpreter services if an applicant or recipient requests them. In addition, the CWDs shall ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided services such as auxiliary aids and

services to persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, or persons with impaired speech, vision, or manual skills, where necessary. More information regarding translations can be found in [MPP §21-115](#).

This ACL and other [CDSS Letters and Notices](#) are available on the internet at: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Letters-and-Notices>.

For CalFresh program questions, or inquiries related to the attached form, please contact the CalFresh Policy Bureau at (916) 651-8047.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

KIM MCCOY WADE, Chief
CalFresh and Nutrition Branch

Attachment

**CALFRESH PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2018 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2019
California Monthly Income Eligibility Standards
Allotments and Deductions**

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

Household Size	Net Income
1	\$1,012
2	1,372
3	1,732
4	2,092
5	2,452
6	2,812
7	3,172
8	3,532
Each Additional Member	+360

Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards/Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for Semi-Annual Reporting (SAR) (130% of Poverty Level)

Household Size	Gross Income
1	\$1,316
2	1,784
3	2,252
4	2,720
5	3,188
6	3,656
7	4,124
8	4,592
Each Additional Member	+468

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

Household Size	Gross Income
1	\$1,670
2	2,264
3	2,858
4	3,452
5	4,046
6	4,640
7	5,234
8	5,828
Each Additional Member	+594

Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards for Modified Categorical Eligibility (MCE)/Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) (200% of Poverty Level)

Household Size	Gross Income
1	\$2,024
2	2,744
3	3,464
4	4,184
5	4,904
6	5,624
7	6,344
8	7,064
Each Additional Member	+720

Maximum CalFresh Allotments

Household Size	Allotment
1	\$192
2	353
3	505
4	642
5	762
6	914
7	1,011
8	1,155
Each Additional Member	+144

Deductions

Standard Deduction	\$164 (HH size 1, 2 & 3)
	\$174 (HH size 4)
	\$204 (HH size 5)
	\$234 (HH size 6+)
Maximum Shelter Deduction	\$552
SUA	\$415
LUA	\$130
TUA	\$18
Homeless Household Shelter Allowance	\$143 (unchanged)

NOTICE TO ALL CALFRESH RECIPIENTS

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ

Effective October 1, 2018, State and Federal laws provide for the following:

Maximum CalFresh Allotments: These are benefit amounts your household would receive if your household had no income.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Each Additional Person
\$192	\$353	\$505	\$642	\$762	\$914	\$1011	\$1155	+\$144

- Additionally, the maximum excess shelter deduction has increased from \$535.00 to \$552.00.
- The homeless shelter allowance of \$143.00 remains unchanged.
- The standard deductions have changed as follows:

Standard Deductions for FFY 2019:

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	STANDARD DEDUCTIONS
1 to 3 persons	\$164.00
4 persons	\$174.00
5 persons	\$204.00
6 or more persons	\$234.00

The Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) of \$397.00 increased to \$415.00.

The Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) of \$126.00 slightly increased to \$130.00.

The Telephone Utility Allowance (TUA) of \$18 remains at this level.

If the SUA/LUA is used as part of your shelter deduction and if you have had no changes in your CalFresh case, your CalFresh benefits may be changed. With the changes in your CalFresh benefits, the amount you will get depends on other household changes. These changes will be included in any notice you get that tells you about other changes in your CalFresh benefits.

If you think we made a mistake in figuring your October CalFresh benefits due to the new amounts for allotments and SUA/LUA you may ask for a state hearing, **within 90 days of when you got this letter** by writing to:

or you may call toll free: 1-800-952-5253. If you are deaf and use TDD, call 1-800-952-8349. When you ask for a state hearing, you must tell us why you think we made a mistake. You can speak for yourself at the hearing or you can have a friend, attorney, or other person speak for you, but you must get these people to help you. You may ask for free legal aid at a legal aid office in your area.