



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT UNIT**

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE A-12-2019

TO: DSS & DMMA Staff

DATE: September 5, 2019

PROGRAM(S): Food Supplement Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), and Child Care

SUBJECT: **October 2019 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs)**

BACKGROUND

Each October, indexed adjustments are made to the Federal Poverty Levels (FPLs) affecting the Food Supplement, TANF, and Child Care programs.

This notice contains:

- Food Benefit Maximum Allotments and Deductions
- Eligibility Income Limits for the Food Supplement, TANF, and Child Care programs

DISCUSSION

The following attachments contain the changes which are effective October 1, 2019.

Attachment A: Food Supplement Program Monthly Allotments, Deductions, and Eligibility Standards

Changes were made to the following:

- Food Benefit Allotment Amounts
- Standard Deductions
- Excess Shelter Deduction
- Standard Utility Allowances
- Income Eligibility Standards

The Basis of EBT Issuance Allotment tables are available in the Outlook Public Folders under DHSS/DSS/Policy/Food Supplement Program/2020 COLA Documents.

Attachment B: Cash Assistance Income Eligibility Standards, Deductions, and Resource Limits

Changes were made to the TANF Income Eligibility Standards.

Attachment C: Child Care Income Limits

The income limits are 185% of the FPL.

Attachment D:

Simplified Reporting Rules for Food Benefits

The income table was revised based on changes in the income limits.

State Median Income (SMI) Limits for Child Care

The income table was revised based on changes in the income limits.

ACTION REQUIRED

Food Supplement Cases

ASSIST Worker Web (AWW) will update the Food Benefit COLA changes for October 2019 benefits when mass change is run in September 2019.

New Food Benefit cases opened after the update will have the correct allotment amounts for September and October (e.g. expedited cases).

TANF Cases

After mass change is run in September 2019, the AWW system will be updated to reflect the October 2019 TANF standard of need limits.

For new cases, staff will process new applications as usual. AWW will determine eligibility for benefits for September based on September's standard of need limits. AWW will determine eligibility for October's benefits based on October's standard of need limits.

Child Care Cases

AWW will be updated to reflect the new income limits for families receiving Child Care. All existing authorizations, including October and any subsequent months, will be updated to reflect decreased copayments. However, copayments may increase if authorizations have not met the maximum copayment assignment. Beginning October 1, 2019, all new and re-determined cases

Administrative Notice A-12-2019

September 5, 2019

Page 3

in AWW will use the new income limits to determine eligibility and assign copayments based on the new guidelines for eligible families.

Signed 9/27/2019

RAY FITZGERALD

DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Food Supplement Program Monthly Allotments, Deductions, and Eligibility Standards

Attachment B: Cash Assistance Income Eligibility Standards, Deductions, and Resource Limits

Attachment C: Child Care Income Limits

Attachment D: Simplified Reporting Rules for Food Benefits and State Median Income Limits for Child Care

RF/MS/JB/BH

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

MAXIMUM FOOD BENEFIT ALLOTMENTS		
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
1	\$192	\$194
2	\$353	\$355
3	\$505	\$509
4	\$642	\$646
5	\$762	\$768
6	\$914	\$921
7	\$1,011	\$1,018
8	\$1,155	\$1,164
Each additional member	\$144	\$146

MINIMUM FOOD BENEFIT ALLOTMENTS	
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>48 States and DC</i>
1-2	\$16

STANDARD DEDUCTIONS		
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
1-3	\$164	\$167
4	\$174	\$178
5	\$204	\$209
6+	\$234	\$240

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

MAXIMUM EXCESS SHELTER DEDUCTION	
<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
\$552	\$569

HOMELESS SHELTER DEDUCTION	
<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
\$143	\$152.06

MAXIMUM ASSET LIMITS	
<i>Household Type</i>	<i>Maximum Amount</i>
Households with at least one member who is age 60 or older or is disabled	\$3,500
All other households	\$2,250

VEHICLE FAIR MARKET VALUE INDEX
\$4,650

SELF-EMPLOYMENT STANDARD DEDUCTION
50%

STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES		
<i>Type of Utility</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
Heating/Cooling	\$417	\$434
Limited (Non-Heating/Cooling)	\$289	\$301
One Utility	\$79	\$79
Telephone	\$37	\$37

Attachment A

**FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS					
<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income 200% FPL</i>	<i>Elderly / Disabled Separate Household 165% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Monthly Income 130% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Net Monthly Income 100% FPL</i>	<i>Maximum Allotment</i>
	<i>Col. A Categorically Eligible</i>	<i>Col. B</i>	<i>Col. C Simplified Reporting</i>	<i>Col. D</i>	<i>Col. E</i>
1	\$2,082	\$1,718	\$1,354	\$1,041	\$194
2	\$2,818	\$2,326	\$1,832	\$1,410	\$355
3	\$3,555	\$2,933	\$2,311	\$1,778	\$509
4	\$4,292	\$3,541	\$2,790	\$2,146	\$646
5	\$5,028	\$4,149	\$3,269	\$2,515	\$768
6	\$5,765	\$4,757	\$3,748	\$2,883	\$921
7	\$6,502	\$5,364	\$4,227	\$3,251	\$1,018
8	\$7,238	\$5,972	\$4,705	\$3,620	\$1,164
Each additional member	\$736	\$608	\$479	\$369	\$146

Attachment B

**CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

TANF PROGRAM COST OF LIVING STANDARD ADJUSTMENTS			
<i>Number of People in the Budget Group</i>	<i>185% of the Standard of Need</i>	<i>Standard of Need 75% FPL</i>	<i>Payment Standard</i>
1	\$1,445	\$781	\$201
2	\$1,957	\$1,058	\$270
3	\$2,468	\$1,334	\$338
4	\$2,979	\$1,610	\$407
5	\$3,489	\$1,886	\$475
6	\$4,000	\$2,162	\$544
7	\$4,510	\$2,438	\$612
8	\$5,023	\$2,715	\$681
9	\$5,535	\$2,992	\$750
10	\$6,048	\$3,269	\$819
11	\$6,558	\$3,545	\$888
12	\$7,071	\$3,822	\$957
13	\$7,583	\$4,099	\$1,026
14	\$8,096	\$4,376	\$1,095
15	\$8,606	\$4,652	\$1,164
16	\$9,119	\$4,929	\$1,233

Attachment B

**CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM STANDARDS OF NEED AND PAYMENT STANDARDS		
<i>Number of People in the Budget Group</i>	<i>Standard of Need</i>	<i>Payment Standard</i>
1	\$79	\$79
2	\$107	\$107
3	\$144	\$144
4	\$169	\$169
5	\$209	\$209
6	\$239	\$239
7	\$266	\$266

TANF MAXIMUM DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTIONS		
<i>Age of Child</i>	<i>Old Amount 10/2018</i>	<i>New Amount 10/2019</i>
Under 2 years old	\$ 200	\$ 200
2 years old and older	\$ 175	\$ 175

RESOURCE LIMITS	
<i>Program</i>	<i>Amount</i>
General Assistance	\$1,000
TANF	\$10,000

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION BONUS
\$350

Attachment C

**CHILD CARE INCOME LIMITS
 OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

MONTHLY COPAYMENTS BASED ON COUNTABLE FAMILY INCOME – FEDERAL POVERTY LIMITS						
<i>Family Size</i>	<i>Excessive Financial Burden 40% and under</i>	<i>Waived Copayments 70% and under</i>	<i>4% of Gross Income applied to Copayments > 70% - 105%</i>	<i>9% of Gross Income applied to Copayments > 105% - 185%</i>	<i>Exit Income at Redetermination 200%</i>	<i>85% SMI</i>
1	\$416	\$729	\$730 - \$1,093	\$1,094 - \$1,926	\$2,082	\$3,496
2	\$564	\$987	\$988 - \$1,481	\$1,482 - \$2,609	\$2,820	\$4,572
3	\$711	\$1,245	\$1,246 - \$1,867	\$1,868 - \$3,289	\$3,556	\$5,647
4	\$858	\$1,502	\$1,503 - \$2,253	\$2,254 - \$3,970	\$4,292	\$6,723
5	\$1,006	\$1,761	\$1,762 - \$2,641	\$2,642 - \$4,653	\$5,030	\$7,799
6	\$1,153	\$2,018	\$2,019 - \$3,027	\$3,028 - \$5,334	\$5,766	\$8,874
7	\$1,300	\$2,276	\$2,277 - \$3,413	\$3,414 - \$6,014	\$6,502	\$9,076
8	\$1,448	\$2,534	\$2,535 - \$3,801	\$3,802 - \$6,697	\$7,240	\$9,278
9	\$1,596	\$2,792	\$2,793 - \$4,188	\$4,189 - \$7,380	\$7,978	\$9,480
10	\$1,743	\$3,051	\$3,052 - \$4,576	\$4,577 - \$8,062	\$8,716	\$9,681
11	\$1,891	\$3,309	\$3,310 - \$4,963	\$4,964 - \$8,745	\$9,454	\$9,883
12	\$2,038	\$3,567	\$3,568 - \$5,351	\$5,352 - \$9,428	\$10,192	\$10,085
13	\$2,186	\$3,826	\$3,827 - \$5,738	\$5,739 - \$10,110	\$10,930	\$10,286
14	\$2,334	\$4,084	\$4,085 - \$6,126	\$6,127 - \$10,793	\$11,668	\$10,488
15	\$2,481	\$4,342	\$4,343 - \$6,513	\$6,514 - \$11,476	\$12,406	\$10,690
16	\$2,629	\$4,600	\$4,601 - \$6,901	\$6,902 - \$12,158	\$13,144	\$10,891

Attachment D

**SIMPLIFIED REPORTING RULES FOR FOOD BENEFITS
 OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

If you receive Food Benefits, you only have to report when your household’s total monthly income is greater than the amount listed in the table below (130% of the Federal Poverty Level) for your family size.

To determine your household’s total monthly income, add the gross amount (the amount of the income before deductions are taken out) of all earned income to the amount of all unearned income (such as Social Security benefits or other cash assistance) that is received by your household during the month.

$$\text{Monthly Gross Earned Income} + \text{Monthly Unearned Income} = \text{Total Monthly Income}$$

If your household’s total monthly income is greater than the amount shown below for the number of people in your Food Benefits case, you must report your total monthly income to the Division of Social Services (DSS) within 10 days after the end of the month. You must show your paycheck stubs to your case worker.

<i>Number of People in Your Case</i>	<i>Household Income</i>			
	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Twice a Month</i>	<i>Bi-weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>
1	\$1,354	\$677	\$627	\$313
2	\$1,832	\$916	\$848	\$423
3	\$2,311	\$1,156	\$1,070	\$534
4	\$2,790	\$1,395	\$1,292	\$644
5	\$3,269	\$1,635	\$1,513	\$755
6	\$3,748	\$1,874	\$1,735	\$866
7	\$4,227	\$2,114	\$1,957	\$976
8	\$4,705	\$2,353	\$2,178	\$1,087
For each additional person, add:	\$479	\$240	\$222	\$111

You are not required to report other changes in your Food Benefit household's circumstances. This reporting requirement is for Food Benefits only. If you do report a change, DSS will take action on it and will notify you if the change results in either an increase or decrease in your benefits.

Additional Reporting Rule for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs):

If you are an adult living in a household without any minor children and you are getting Food Benefits because you are working 20 or more hours per week, you must report when you start working less than 20 hours per week

You must immediately report any changes in your household’s circumstances for Cash Assistance and Medical Assistance.

Attachment D

**CHILD CARE GROSS INCOME LIMITS
 85% STATE MEDIAN INCOME (SMI)
 OCTOBER 1, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

If you are receiving Child Care Assistance, you are required to report a change in income when your family’s total monthly income increases to greater than 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) shown below. You must report this increase in income to DSS within 10 days of the change.

<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Household Income</i>				
	<i>Yearly SMI</i>	<i>Monthly 85% SMI</i>	<i>Weekly 85% SMI</i>	<i>Bi-Weekly 85% SMI</i>	<i>Semi-Monthly 85% SMI</i>
1	\$49,355	\$3,496	\$807	\$1,619	\$1,748
2	\$64,542	\$4,572	\$1,056	\$2,117	\$2,286
3	\$79,728	\$5,647	\$1,304	\$2,614	\$2,823
4	\$94,914	\$6,723	\$1,553	\$3,112	\$3,361
5	\$110,100	\$7,799	\$1,801	\$3,611	\$3,900
6	\$125,286	\$8,874	\$2,049	\$4,108	\$4,437
7	\$128,134	\$9,076	\$2,096	\$4,202	\$4,538
8	\$130,981	\$9,278	\$2,143	\$4,295	\$4,639
9	\$133,829	\$9,480	\$2,189	\$4,389	\$4,740
10	\$136,676	\$9,681	\$2,236	\$4,482	\$4,840
11	\$139,524	\$9,883	\$2,282	\$4,575	\$4,941
12	\$142,371	\$10,085	\$2,329	\$4,669	\$5,042

You must also report to DSS a permanent change in your family’s circumstances that may affect your need for child care within 10 days of the change.