



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
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Alexandria
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DATE: January 31, 2018

SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Income Guidelines for 2018

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
MARO, MPRO, MWRO,
NERO, SERO, SWRO, and
WRO

State Directors
CSFP State Agencies
All Participating States

This memorandum transmits the 2018 Income Guidelines (IGs) for State agencies in determining the eligibility of individuals applying to participate in CSFP. These guidelines should be used in conjunction with CSFP regulations, at 7 CFR Part 247. The Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-79, the Farm Bill) amended CSFP's eligibility requirements to phase out the participation of women, infants, and children (w-i-c) participating in the program. Accordingly, the 2018 IGs are applicable only to those w-i-c participants who were certified and enrolled in CSFP as of February 6, 2014. Because all women and infants have transitioned off the program, the 2018 IGs forego reference to these individuals. Only children and elderly individuals 60 years of age and older remain on the program. Finally, the IGs for children are not applicable in those States that joined CSFP for the first time in 2015 or later, as they joined after enactment of the Farm Bill and must only serve eligible elderly individuals.

Program regulations at 7 CFR Part 247.9(b)(1) establish that household income limits for children must be at, or below, 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (Poverty Guidelines) published annually by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), but not below 100 percent of these guidelines. Part 247.9(b)(1) further requires State agencies to consider certain children as income-eligible regardless of actual income, including those individuals who receive benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or Medicaid. Program regulations at 7 CFR Part 247.9(c) require that elderly persons have household income at or below 130 percent of the Poverty Guidelines in order to be eligible for the program. To establish annual income limits of 130 and 185 percent, the Poverty Guidelines are multiplied by 1.30 and 1.85, respectively, and the results are rounded up to the next whole dollar. From these results, weekly and monthly income limits are calculated.

The 2018 IGs in the attached tables contain the maximum income limits by household size to be used for eligibility determinations in CSFP. The first table contains the income limits for households residing in the 48 contiguous States and the District of

Columbia. Separate income limits for Alaska and Hawaii are established and published annually by HHS. The second and third tables contain the income limits for CSFP households residing in Alaska and Hawaii.

Pursuant to program regulations, CSFP State agencies must implement the 2018 IGs immediately upon receipt of this memorandum for elderly participants, and where applicable, implement the IGs for children at the same time the State agency administering the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) implements the adjusted guidelines in WIC. The guidelines for both elderly and children remain in effect until notification of the CSFP IGs for 2019.

CSFP regulations at 7 CFR Part 247.9(e)(1) define “income” as gross income before deductions for such items as income taxes, employees’ social security taxes, insurance premiums, and bonds. Income exclusions are listed in Parts 247.9(e)(2) and (e)(3) and via policy memoranda available online at the Food and Nutrition Service’s (FNS) website at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd>.

State agencies should direct any questions they may have regarding the 2018 IGs to their respective FNS Regional Offices.

Laura Castro
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment

**ATTACHMENT
CSFP INCOME GUIDELINES--2018**

48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA*							
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	Children - 185%			Elderly - 130%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$12,140	\$22,459	\$1,872	\$432	\$15,782	\$1,316	\$304
2.....	16,460	30,451	2,538	586	21,398	1,784	412
3.....	20,780	38,443	3,204	740	27,014	2,252	520
4.....	25,100	46,435	3,870	893	32,630	2,720	628
5.....	29,420	54,427	4,536	1,047	38,246	3,188	736
6.....	33,740	62,419	5,202	1,201	43,862	3,656	844
7.....	38,060	70,411	5,868	1,355	49,478	4,124	952
8.....	42,380	78,403	6,534	1,508	55,094	4,592	1,060
For each add'l household member, add...	4,320	7,992	666	154	5,616	468	108

ALASKA*							
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	Children - 185%			Elderly - 130%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$15,180	\$28,083	\$2,341	\$541	\$19,734	\$1,645	\$380
2.....	20,580	38,073	3,173	733	26,754	2,230	515
3.....	25,980	48,063	4,006	925	33,774	2,815	650
4.....	31,380	58,053	4,838	1,117	40,794	3,400	785
5.....	36,780	68,043	5,671	1,309	47,814	3,985	920
6.....	42,180	78,033	6,503	1,501	54,834	4,570	1,055
7.....	47,580	88,023	7,336	1,693	61,854	5,155	1,190
8.....	52,980	98,013	8,168	1,885	68,874	5,740	1,325
For each add'l household member, add...	5,400	9,990	833	193	7,020	585	135

Hawaii*				
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	Elderly - 130%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$13,960	\$18,148	\$1,513	\$349
2.....	18,930	24,609	2,051	474
3.....	23,900	31,070	2,590	598
4.....	28,870	37,531	3,128	722
5.....	33,840	43,992	3,666	846
6.....	38,810	50,453	4,205	971
7.....	43,780	56,914	4,743	1,095
8.....	48,750	63,375	5,282	1,219
For each add'l household member, add...	4,970	6,461	539	125

*CSFP State agencies must implement the adjusted income guidelines for elderly applicants immediately upon receipt. For children who were certified and enrolled as of February 6, 2014, each CSFP State agency must implement the adjusted guidelines at the same time that the WIC State agency implements the adjusted guidelines in WIC. The guidelines for children are not applicable to those States added to CSFP in 2015 or later - Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Seminole Nation, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming.