

## September 6, 2012 Summary of Changes

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Passage</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>0200</b>	<b>0210.0103</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.
<b>0600</b>	<b>0610.0200</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.
<b>0800</b>	<b>0810.0200, 0810.0501</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.
<b>1600</b>	<b>1640.0615</b>	Updated the passage to refer to Appendix A-35 for the amount of the average monthly private pay nursing home rate.
<b>2000</b>	<b>2010.0201</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.
<b>2600</b>	<b>2610.0103, 2610.0106.02</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.
<b>3000</b>	<b>3010.0102</b>	Updates made to eliminate the net income limit for broad-based categorical eligibility and to add the requirement to report address changes.

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Technical changes and changes in non-substantive information may be excluded from this summary.

# Listing of Amended Passages

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## **0210.0103 Eligibility Criteria (FS)**

Individuals who purchase and prepare food together will be considered an assistance group for food stamp purposes and will have their eligibility determined together. Individuals who apply for food stamps must qualify on the basis of income and assets. Almost all types of income are counted. After adding all the assistance group's countable income, the eligibility specialist must allow certain adjustments. In order to be eligible, the total income must fall below certain limits, depending on the assistance group's size.

In addition, families and individuals must meet work registration requirements as well as certain citizenship and residency requirements. Eligibility criteria are established by USDA and are uniform throughout the United States.

Any assistance group in which all members are recipients of TCA, RAP and/or SSI benefits are considered categorically eligible because of their status. Eligibility factors accepted **without further verification unless questionable** for FS eligibility, TCA, RAP, and/or SSI eligibility are:

1. gross and net income limits,
2. assets,
3. SSN information,
4. sponsored noncitizen information, and
5. residency.

Broad-based categorically eligible standard filing units are categorically eligible because they received information about Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Maintenance of Effort funded services or benefits in an ACCESS Florida notice. Broad-based categorically eligible standard filing units must meet the gross income limit, which is 200% of the federal poverty level ~~and net income limit which is 100% of the federal poverty level unless the standard filing unit contains an elderly or disabled member. Standard filing units with an elderly or disabled member must pass only the net income limit.~~

## **0610.0200 SIMPLIFIED REPORTING CHANGE REQUIREMENTS (FS)**

Effective November 1, 2009, all food stamp households are simplified reporting.

~~Simplified reporting SFUs, that are broad-based categorically eligible, have no reporting requirements until recertification.~~ Simplified reporting SFUs, that contain a member disqualified for IPV, fleeing felon, felony drug trafficking, or employment and training sanction, are not broad-based categorically eligible. **Simplified Reporting households** ~~and~~ must report a change **only** when income exceeds the ~~430%~~ monthly gross income limit for the AG size or when an able-bodied adult subject to time limits has a change in work hours below twenty hours per week. **Households in all programs must report any changes in the household living and/or mailing address.** The SFU must report the change by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month of change.

Process ~~only~~ beneficial changes, sanction actions and data exchange responses that are considered verified upon receipt: Social Security (Bendex), State Data Exchange (SDX), Unemployment Compensation Benefit (DEUC), Vital Statistics Death Match (DEDT), and Numident (DENU). ACCESS Integrity staff will process prison incarceration information received directly from the Department of Corrections. ~~Responses from other data exchanges require no action on the information provided.~~ Review ~~these~~ responses **from other data exchanges** as part of the next **review** ~~recertification~~. Food stamp AGs that also receive TCA and/or Medicaid must report changes according to TCA and/or Medicaid Program requirements. Act on changes reported for TCA and/or Medicaid and make the change to affect all **three** programs. For

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New language in passages appear **blue** in color and ~~strikethrough~~ is used for deleted language. The Introduction, Glossary, Appendices and deleted or renumbered passages are excluded.

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beneficial changes, if the household fails to verify the information, leave the food stamp benefits the same. Do not act on reported adverse changes in food stamp only cases. In combination cases with food stamps, TCA, and/or Medicaid, process adverse changes based on the information provided by the household.

### **0810.0200 SIMPLIFIED REPORTING (FS)**

Effective November 1, 2009 all food stamp households are simplified reporting.

~~Simplified reporting SFUs, that are broad-based categorically eligible, have no reporting requirements until recertification.~~ Simplified reporting SFUs, that contain a member disqualified for IPV, fleeing felon, felony drug trafficking, or employment and training sanction, are not broad-based categorically eligible. [Simplified Reporting households](#) and must report a change only when income exceeds the 130% monthly gross income limit for the AG size or when an able-bodied adult subject to time limits has a change in work hours below twenty hours per week. [Households in all programs must report any changes in the household living and/or mailing address.](#) The SFU must report the change by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month of change.

Process ~~only~~ beneficial changes, sanction actions and data exchange responses that are considered verified upon receipt: Social Security (Bendex), State Data Exchange (SDX), Unemployment Compensation Benefit (DEUC), Vital Statistics Death Match (DEDT), and Numident (DENU). ACCESS Integrity staff will process prison incarceration information received directly from the Department of Corrections. ~~Responses from other data exchanges require no action on the information provided.~~ Review these responses [from other data exchanges](#) as part of the next [review](#) recertification. Food stamp AGs that also receive TCA and/or Medicaid must report changes according to TCA and/or Medicaid Program requirements. Act on changes reported for TCA and/or Medicaid and make the change to affect all [three](#) programs. For beneficial changes, if the household fails to verify the information, leave the food stamp benefits the same. Do not act on reported adverse changes in food stamp only cases. In combination cases with food stamps, TCA, and/or Medicaid, process adverse changes based on the information provided by the household.

### **0810.0501 Decreases in Benefits (FS)**

When an adverse change is reported that contains sufficient information, ~~do not process the change (except for households that also receive TCA and/or Medicaid),~~ [act on the change to affect all three programs](#). Obtain verification at the next eligibility review.

If delay in reporting the change or acting on the change causes overpayment, complete a BR referral.

### **1640.0615 Uncompensated Value/Notifying the Individual (MSSI)**

Whenever the individual disposes of income or assets within the transfer look-back period and does not receive fair compensation, he is potentially ineligible for Medicaid institutional care, HCBS, or PACE for a period of time. The ineligibility period is dependent on the amount of the uncompensated value of the transferred funds.

The uncompensated value (UV) of the transferred funds is determined by subtracting the compensation received after the transfer from the fair market value of the transferred asset or income at the time of the transfer (less any outstanding loans, mortgages or other encumbrances on the asset).

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Whenever the UV exceeds the average monthly private pay nursing home rate (refer to Appendix A-35) (\$6,880), the individual is potentially ineligible for at least one month of nursing home care or HCBS. You must send CF-ES Form 2264 to the individual to offer him the opportunity to dispute the presumption that the asset was transferred to establish eligibility.

Notification of uncompensated value due to transfers of income or assets is not required and the application may be processed immediately if:

1. the individual is ineligible for other reasons; or
2. the total uncompensated value of the transferred assets is less than the private nursing home rate; or
3. the period of ineligibility has elapsed; or
4. the transfer was considered allowable.

When notification is required, you must allow the individual the full 15 days to respond to the rebuttal notice. If the individual does not respond within 15 days, the uncompensated value must be considered in determining eligibility.

You must record the individual's written statement or remarks on CLRC.

### **2010.0201 Categorically Eligible Assistance Groups (FS)**

A categorically eligible assistance group is one in which all members are receiving or are authorized to receive Temporary Cash Assistance or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits or a combination of Temporary Cash Assistance and SSI. A broad-based categorically eligible standard filing unit (SFU) is one that receives information about Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Maintenance of Effort funded services or benefits on an ACCESS Florida notice and does not contain a disqualified member. An individual is considered a recipient of Temporary Cash Assistance or SSI if the benefits have been authorized but not received, if the benefits are suspended or recouped, or if the benefits are not paid because they are less than a minimum amount.

Families that are receiving or are authorized to receive services through Healthy Families Florida are considered categorically eligible.

The assistance group cannot be considered categorically eligible for months in which an individual opts not to receive Temporary Cash Assistance, months that a SFU contains an ineligible or disqualified member or receives medical assistance only.

Individuals who are categorically eligible for food stamps are considered to have met gross and net income limits, asset limits, SSN requirements, and residency [without further verification, unless questionable](#).

Broad-based categorically eligible SFUs must meet the 200% gross ~~and the 100% net~~ income limits ~~unless the SFU contains an elderly or disabled member. These SFUs must pass only the net income limit.~~

### **2610.0103 Budgets and Tests (FS)**

Assistance groups must meet ~~both~~ the gross ~~and net~~ income ~~standards~~ ~~standards~~ to be eligible for food stamps with the following exceptions:

1. assistance groups that contain an elderly or disabled member and are not categorically eligible must meet the net income limits; [and](#)

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- ~~2. assistance groups in which all members are categorically eligible are not required to meet either gross or net income limits; and~~
3. standard filing units (SFUs) that are broad-based categorically eligible must meet the 200% gross and the 100% net income limits unless the SFU contains an elderly or disabled member. These SFUs must pass only the net income limit.

### **2610.0106.02 Minimum Benefit (FS)**

**Initial month:** Issue no benefits less than \$10.

**Recurring months:**

1. Issue a minimum of eight percent of the maximum benefit for a one-person assistance group to one or two person assistance groups who ~~meet the net income test or are categorically eligible~~ for at least a \$0 benefit.
2. Issue a benefit less than the minimum benefit to eligible assistance groups of three or more ~~that is not categorically eligible~~. \$1, \$3, or \$5 benefits will round to \$2, \$4, or \$6.

### **3010.0102 Processing Time Standards (FS)**

As part of the application or ~~review recertification~~ review process, review and take action on data exchange responses, including responses received after the prior approval that required no previous action due to simplified reporting criteria.

Process beneficial changes, sanction responses, and review Social Security (BENDEX), Supplemental Security Income (SDX), Unemployment Compensation Benefit (DEUC), Vital Statistics Death Match (DEDT), and Numident (DENU) responses considered verified upon receipt and dispose of them within 10 calendar days allowing for 10-day adverse notice. ACCESS Integrity staff will process prison incarceration information received directly from the Department of Corrections within these same time standards.

Dispose of all other responses that are not verified upon receipt within 45 calendar days. ~~Simplified reporting food stamp only AGs require no action on these responses. Review these responses as part of the next recertification.~~ Action may be required for simplified reporting AGs based on whether verification is returned for other programs.