



SNAP Policy Memo

21-10

To: Economic Assistance Eligibility Staff
From: Melissa Weyer, SNAP Program Manager II
Date: June 4, 2021
Re: SNAP Gross Income Limit Changes
Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 68-1017.02, LB 108

Purpose: The purpose of this memo is to inform eligibility staff about temporary changes to the SNAP Gross Income limit.

On May 26, 2021, the Nebraska State Legislature passed LB 108 into law. LB 108 increases the gross income limit for all Expanded Resource Program (ERP) households to 165% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The new gross income limits are:

Household Size	165% FPL Gross Income Limit
1	\$1,755
2	\$2,371
3	\$2,987
4	\$3,603
5	\$4,219
6	\$4,835
7	\$5,451
8	\$6,067
Each Additional Member	+ \$608

On July 11, 2021, N-FOCUS will be updated with the gross income limits. All applications received after July 11 will have the new gross income limits applied. On July 17, 2021, a MESA will run on all existing SNAP households to change the gross income limits in the budget. This will not affect allotments because the gross income limit does not determine allotment amounts.

SNAP Eligibility Determination Workaround from the date of this memo through July 11, 2021:

- If the household has gross income equal to or below 130% FPL, the benefits can be processed as normal.
- If the household is not exempt from the gross income test and their gross income is over the 165% FPL, the benefits can be denied as normal.
- If the gross income limit is between 130% and 165% then you must leave the case in a pending status and send a pending notice with the following language:

English:

Effective May 26, 2021, the SNAP gross income limit was increased to 165% of the federal poverty level from 130%. Due to system limitations, DHHS is not able to process your application to determine if you are eligible until after July 11, 2021. We will process your application between July 11, 2021, and July 26, 2021, and we will notify you using your preferred contact method.

Spanish:

A partir del 26 de mayo de 2021, el límite de ingresos brutos de SNAP se incrementó del 130% al 165% del nivel federal de pobreza. Debido a las limitaciones del sistema, el DHHS no puede procesar su solicitud para determinar si es elegible hasta después del 11 de julio de 2021. Procesaremos su solicitud entre el 11 de julio de 2021 y el 26 de julio de 2021 y le notificaremos mediante su método de contacto preferido.

- The Case will remain with the SSW currently assigned to the case until eligibility is determined under new income guidelines.

Applications received between May 26, 2021, and the date of this memo will be reviewed after July 11, 2021. N-FOCUS will generate a report of households denied for being over income between 130% and 165% of the FPL. No action needs to be taken to re-review those cases by Eligibility Workers until then. If a household reapplies follow normal procedures and the memo above if necessary.

SNAP Closures

When acting on a change and the household goes over 130% FPL, action must be taken as normal. This means that the benefits will be closed and a notice sent. After July 11, 2021, N-FOCUS will generate a report of households closed for being over income between 130% and 165% of the FPL. At this time, the cases will be reviewed to determine if they are eligible and underpayments will be issued.

Questions regarding this Policy Memo must be sent to
DHHS.EconomicAssistancePolicyQuestions@nebraska.gov