



AUG 26 2008

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500


Subject: Cost-of-Living Adjustments to the Maximum Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Allotments—Alaska and Hawaii

To: All Regional Directors
Food Stamp Program

Attached are the fiscal year (FY) 2009 Cost-of-Living adjustments to the SNAP maximum allotments for Alaska and Hawaii. In Alaska, the maximum allotment for a 4-person household reflects an increase of over 8 percent for the areas of Urban, Rural I, and Rural II. In Hawaii, the maximum allotment for a 4-person household reflects an increase of approximately 7 percent.

These standards also incorporate the provision of the 2008 Farm Bill that indexed the minimum benefit amount to 8 percent of the one-person Thrifty Food Plan rounded to the nearest whole dollar, effectively increasing the minimum allotment for one and two person households from \$10 to \$17 for Alaska Urban, \$21 for Alaska Rural I, \$26 for Alaska Rural II, and \$22 for Hawaii.

These adjustments are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2008. State agencies that have questions regarding these adjustments should contact their respective Regional Office representative. Regional office staff who have questions should contact their respective liaison in the Certification Policy Branch.


Arthur T. Foley
Director
Program Development Division

Attachment

**Fiscal Year 2009 Maximum Allotments
Alaska and Hawaii
Effective October 1, 2008**

Alaska

Household Size	Maximum Allotment		
	Urban	Rural 1	Rural 2
1	210	268	326
2	385	492	598
3	552	704	857
4	701	894	1,088
5	833	1,062	1,293
6	999	1,275	1,551
7	1,105	1,409	1,715
8	1,263	1,610	1,960
Add on	158	201	245

Hawaii

Household Size	Maximum Allotment
1	276
2	506
3	725
4	921
5	1,094
6	1,313
7	1,451
8	1,658
Add on	207