



23 MAR 2012

United States
Department of
Agriculture

SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Income Guidelines (IGs) for 2012

Food and
Nutrition
Service

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

Regional Director
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State Directors
CSFP State Agencies
All Participating States

This memorandum transmits the 2012 IGs to be used by State agencies in determining the eligibility of individuals applying to participate in CSFP. These guidelines are to be used in conjunction with CSFP regulations, at 7 CFR Part 247. Section 247.9(b)(1) establishes that household income limits for women, infants, and 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. Section 247.9(b)(1) further requires State agencies to consider certain women, infants, and children as income-eligible regardless of actual income, including those individuals who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or Medicaid benefits. Section 247.9(c) requires 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 2012 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 table contains the income limits for CSFP households residing in Alaska.

Pursuant to program regulations, the 2012 elderly income guidelines must be implemented immediately upon receipt of this memorandum, and will remain in effect until notification of the income guidelines for 2013. Each CSFP State agency must implement the 2012 income guidelines for women, infants, and children at the same time that the State agency administering the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) implements the adjusted guidelines in WIC. These also remain in effect until notification of CSFP income guidelines for 2013.

CSFP regulations, at section 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. Sections 247.9(e)(2) and (e)(3) list income exclusions, and other income exclusions are provided 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 IGs to their FNS Regional Offices. Regional Offices should contact Michelle Waters or Ashley Bress at (703) 305-2662.



Laura Castro
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment

**ATTACHMENT
CSFP INCOME GUIDELINES--2012**

48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA*									
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%			Women-Infants-Children - 185%			Elderly - 130%		
	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$11,170	\$1,723	\$398	\$20,665	\$1,723	\$398	\$14,521	\$1,211	\$280
2.....	15,130	2,333	539	27,991	2,333	539	19,669	1,640	379
3.....	19,090	2,944	680	35,317	2,944	680	24,817	2,069	478
4.....	23,050	3,554	821	42,643	3,554	821	29,965	2,498	577
5.....	27,010	4,165	961	49,969	4,165	961	35,113	2,927	676
6.....	30,970	4,775	1,102	57,295	4,775	1,102	40,261	3,356	775
7.....	34,930	5,386	1,243	64,621	5,386	1,243	45,409	3,785	874
8.....	38,890	5,996	1,384	71,947	5,996	1,384	50,557	4,214	973
For each add'l household member, add....	3,960	611	141	7,326	611	141	5,148	429	99

ALASKA*									
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%			Women-Infants-Children - 185%			Elderly - 130%		
	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$13,970	\$2,154	\$498	\$25,845	\$2,154	\$498	\$18,161	\$1,514	\$350
2.....	18,920	2,917	674	35,002	2,917	674	24,596	2,050	473
3.....	23,870	3,680	850	44,160	3,680	850	31,031	2,586	597
4.....	28,820	4,444	1,026	53,317	4,444	1,026	37,466	3,123	721
5.....	33,770	5,207	1,202	62,475	5,207	1,202	43,901	3,659	845
6.....	38,720	5,970	1,378	71,632	5,970	1,378	50,336	4,195	968
7.....	43,670	6,733	1,554	80,790	6,733	1,554	56,771	4,731	1,092
8.....	48,620	7,496	1,730	89,947	7,496	1,730	63,206	5,268	1,216
For each add'l household member, add....	4,950	764	177	9,158	764	177	6,435	537	124

*CSFP State agencies must implement the adjusted income guidelines for elderly applicants immediately upon receipt. For women, infants, and children applicants, each CSFP State agency must implement the adjusted guidelines at the same time that the WIC State agency implements the adjusted guidelines in WIC.