



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance*


CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

KARYN POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

AMY KERSHAW
Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2021-33
April 28, 2021**

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From:  **Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**
Re: SNAP: Standardized Procedures for SNAP Emergency Allotments

Overview

As part of the Families First Coronavirus Act of 2020, Massachusetts obtained a waiver from FNS to issue Emergency Allotments to eligible SNAP households each month. When the Emergency Allotment is issued, the additional benefit brings the SNAP household up to the maximum benefit level for their household size.

FNS recently issued new guidance that beginning with April's Emergency Allotments, households that are already receiving the maximum SNAP benefit amount for their household size or are receiving SNAP Emergency Allotments of less than \$95 per month are now eligible to receive the base SNAP Emergency Allotment payment of \$95.

SNAP Emergency Allotment payments will not change for households who had been receiving Emergency Allotment benefits of \$95 or more per month.

SNAP Emergency Allotments will be issued on the second business day of the month for **all** eligible SNAP households. Previously, applicant households that were approved for SNAP would receive their SNAP Emergency Allotment soon after approval. Eligible applicant households will now receive their Emergency Allotment on the second business day of the month following approval.

When the SNAP Emergency Allotments are finalized each month, staff will be notified to confirm the action.

Purpose

This Online Guide update:

- advises staff on how SNAP Emergency Allotments will be administered;
 - provides information about the new base SNAP Emergency Allotment of \$95 for households a maximum benefit level and households whose SNAP Allotment calculates to less than \$95; and
 - includes examples that demonstrate how the 15% increase and the Emergency Allotment are calculated.
-

**COVID-19
Online Guide
Update – New
Page**

Book: COVID -19

Page: Standardized Procedures for SNAP Emergency Allotments

**Obsoleted
Online Guide
Transmittals**

OLGT2020-30D: Standardized Procedures for SNAP Emergency Allotments

Questions

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email them to DTA.Procedural Issues.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.
