

Food and
Nutrition
Service

DATE: March 11, 2021
SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Income Guidelines for 2021

1320
Braddock
Place
Alexandria
VA 22314

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

State Directors
CSFP State Agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs)

This memorandum transmits the 2021 Income Guidelines (IGs) for State agencies and ITOs in determining the eligibility of individuals applying to participate in CSFP. These guidelines should be used in conjunction with CSFP regulations, at 7 CFR Part 247, which establish household income limits.

Per 7 CFR Part 247.9(c), to be eligible for the program, individuals must be 60 years of age or older and must have household income at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (Poverty Guidelines) published annually by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The 2021 IGs in the attached tables contain the maximum income limits by household size to be used for eligibility determinations in CSFP. To establish annual income limits of 130 percent, the Poverty Guidelines are multiplied by 1.30, and the results are rounded up to the next whole dollar. From these results, weekly and monthly income limits are calculated. The first table contains the income limits for households residing in the 48 contiguous States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Separate income limits for Alaska and Hawaii are established and published annually by HHS, which are reflected in the second and third tables.

Pursuant to program regulations, CSFP State agencies and ITOs must implement the 2021 IGs immediately upon receipt of this memorandum for elderly participants. The guidelines remain in effect until notification of the CSFP IGs for 2022.

CSFP regulations at 7 CFR Part 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. Income exclusions are listed in Parts 247.9(e)(2) and (e)(3) and via policy memoranda available online at the Food and Nutrition Service’s (FNS) website at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp>. States and ITOs may also authorize local agencies to consider the household’s average income during the previous 12 months and current household income to determine which more accurately reflects the household’s status, in accordance with 7 CFR Part 247.9(e)(4).

State agencies should direct any questions they may have regarding the 2021 IGs to their respective FNS Regional Offices.

/Electronic signature on file

Laura Castro
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment

**ATTACHMENT
CSFP INCOME GUIDELINES--2021**

48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA*				
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100% Annual	Elderly - 130%		
		Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$12,880	\$16,744	\$1,396	\$322
2.....	17,420	22,646	1,888	436
3.....	21,960	28,548	2,379	549
4.....	26,500	34,450	2,871	663
5.....	31,040	40,352	3,363	776
6.....	35,580	46,254	3,855	890
7.....	40,120	52,156	4,347	1,003
8.....	44,660	58,058	4,839	1,117
For each add'l household member, add...	4,540	5,902	492	114

ALASKA				
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100% Annual	Elderly - 130%		
		Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$16,090	\$20,917	\$1,744	\$403
2.....	21,770	28,301	2,359	545
3.....	27,450	35,685	2,974	687
4.....	33,130	43,069	3,590	829
5.....	38,810	50,453	4,205	971
6.....	44,490	57,837	4,820	1,113
7.....	50,170	65,221	5,436	1,255
8.....	55,850	72,605	6,051	1,397
For each add'l household member, add...	5,680	7,384	616	142

HAWAII				
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100% Annual	Elderly - 130%		
		Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$14,820	\$19,266	\$1,606	\$371
2.....	20,040	26,052	2,171	501
3.....	25,260	32,838	2,737	632
4.....	30,480	39,624	3,302	762
5.....	35,700	46,410	3,868	893
6.....	40,920	53,196	4,433	1,023
7.....	46,140	59,982	4,999	1,154
8.....	51,360	66,768	5,564	1,284
For each add'l household member, add...	5,220	6,786	566	131

*CSFP State agencies must implement the adjusted income guidelines for elderly applicants immediately upon receipt. The Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-79, the Farm Bill) amended CSFP's eligibility requirements to phase out the participation of women, infants, and children (w-i-c) in the program, transitioning it to a seniors-only program. All women, infants and children were phased out in 2020. Accordingly, the 2021 IGs are only applicable to elderly individuals 60 years of age and older.