



STATE OF GEORGIA
Division of Family and Children Services

Nathan Deal
Governor

Bobby D. Cagle
Director

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM MANUAL TRANSMITTAL NO. 48

TO: Regional Directors, County Department of Family and Children Services,
OFI District Management, State Office Staff

FROM: Bobby D. Cagle
DFCS Director

DATE: October 6, 2017

RE: Food Stamp Program Manual Transmittal 48

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide policy updates to the Food Stamp Program income limits, standard deductions, excess shelter deduction, and maximum and minimum allotments based on the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) cost of living adjustments (COLA) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018. The Food Stamp Program's COLA changes are effective October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

This transmittal also provides updates to the standard utility allowances, resource and income policy.

The policy revisions include:

- Recent updates to the Food Stamp Program COLA changes effective October 1, 2017.
- The most current Basis of Issuance (BOI) Tables for FFY 2018 (October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018).
- Changes to the excess shelter deduction from \$517 to \$535.
- Changes to the heating and cooling standard utility allowance (H/C SUA) from \$391 to \$354.
- Changes to the limited standard utility allowance (LSUA) from \$340 to \$306.
- Changes to the telephone standard from \$35 to \$37.
- Updates to the food stamp resource limits. The resource limit for AUs with at least one AU member age 60 or older or disabled is \$3,500. The resource limit for all other AUs is \$2,250.
- Updates to qualified retirement accounts as excluded resources.
- The addition of military combat pay as an excluded income type.
- Revisions to Form 296 (Rev. 10/17) English/Spanish; Form 339 (Rev. 10/17) English/Spanish;

This transmittal is effective October 1, 2017.