



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

FROM: Tom C. Rawlings
Division Director

DATE: **February 26, 2020**

RE: Food Stamp Program Manual Transmittal 62

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide policy updates to the Food Stamp Program's 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) 2020. The Food Stamp Program's COLA changes are effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

This transmittal also provides updates to the standard utility allowances, Form 296 Expedited Food Stamp Screening Tool (English and Spanish) and Form 339 Simplified Reporting Requirement (SRR) Notice (English and Spanish).

Additionally, the current version of Form 139 Contribution Statement (English and Spanish) are being added to the manual. The contact information and layout of the Form 299 Senior SNAP Brochure (English and Spanish) has been updated. The Appendix A Financial Standards Overview has been updated to Arial 12-point font and updated to the new policy format.

The policy revisions include:

Section 3613 (Standard Deduction), Section 3617 (Shelter and Utility Deductions) and Appendix A (Food Stamp Income Limits) updated to include the stated changes below:

- Recent updates to the Food Stamp Program COLA changes effective October 1, 2019.
- The most current Basis of Issuance (BOI) Tables for FFY 2020 (October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020).
- Changes to the excess shelter deduction from \$552 to \$569.
- Changes to the heating and cooling standard utility allowance (H/C SUA) from \$377 to \$378.
- Changes to the limited standard utility allowance (LSUA) from \$323 to \$329.
- Changes to the telephone standard from \$41 to \$43.
- Changes to Standard Deduction AU Size (1-3) from \$164 to \$167
- Changes to Standard Deduction AU Size (4) from \$174 to \$178.

- Changes to Standard Deduction AU Size (5) from \$204 to \$209
- Changes to Standard Deduction AU Size (6+) from \$234 to \$240.
- Appendix A – Financial Standards Overview – This section updated to Arial 12-point and updated to the new policy format.

The form changes include:

- Form 139 Contribution Statement (Rev. 2/10) – Current version updated in the manual (English and Spanish).
- Form 296 Expedited Food Stamp Screening Tool (Rev. 10/19) – Updated with the new utility deductions (English and Spanish).
- Form 299 Senior SNAP Brochure – Updated the contact information and form layout (English and Spanish).
- Form 339 Simplified Reporting Requirement (SRR) Notice (Rev. 10/19) – Updated with the new gross monthly income amount (English and Spanish).

This transmittal is effective October 1, 2019