

**DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES 34-2020
EFS_FNS_AL 34-2020**

Food and Nutrition Services

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)

DATE: August 27, 2020

SUBJECT: September 2020 Automated Supplements for active FNS households

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 22, 2020

PRIORITY: For Information

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On March 18, 2020 the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 was signed to provide for the issuance of emergency allotment supplements based on a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID-19 when a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration. NC DHHS elected to take this option and previously issued FNS supplements up to the maximum of the household's monthly benefit amount for March, April, May, June, July, and August 2020. In addition, NC DHHS has accepted the opportunity provided by the United States Department of Agriculture to supplement September 2020 benefits up to the maximum of the household's monthly benefit amount under the condition that the Statewide Emergency Declaration **is not** lifted on or prior to September 1, 2020.

II. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

A. AUTOMATED SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS:

Automated supplements will be issued for September 2020 to all FNS recipients in North Carolina up to the maximum allotment for their household size using the following guidelines:

1. The supplement is the difference between the household's actual September 2020 benefits and the maximum allotment for their household size.

Example: A household of 3 received an allotment of \$200 for September 2020. The maximum allotment for a household of 3 is \$509. The household will be issued a supplement of \$309 (\$509 - \$200 = \$309) for the month of September 2020.

2. Households that have already received the maximum allotment for their household size will not receive a supplement.

Example: A household of 4 received an allotment of \$646 for September 2020. The maximum allotment for a household of 4 is \$646. The household will not be issued a supplement for the month of September 2020 because they have already received the maximum allotment for their household size.

3. The household size will not include ineligible and disqualified members.

Example: A household of 3, including one ineligible member, received an allotment of \$100 for the month of September 2020. The maximum allotment for a household size of 2 is \$355. The household would be issued a supplement of \$255 ($\$355 - \$100 = \255) for the month of September 2020.

4. Households that were ineligible in September 2020 will not receive a supplement for the month as they were ineligible.
5. Households that were eligible for a prorated allotment of \$0 in September 2020 will receive a supplement for the prorated month.

Example: A household of 3 received a prorated allotment of \$0 for September 2020. The maximum allotment for a household of 3 is \$509. The household will be issued a supplement of \$509 ($\$509 - \$0 = \509) for the month of September 2020.

B. NC FAST SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE:

If the Statewide Emergency Declaration **is not** lifted on or prior to September 1, 2020, NC FAST will automatically issue the September supplements to active FNS households beginning September 22, 2020. The supplements will be randomly generated and staggered every workday until all households have been supplemented. For all applications and recertifications approved subsequent to the September supplement dates, NC FAST will continue to run weekly batches to ensure they are supplemented to the max allotment for September 2020.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE

If the Statewide Emergency Declaration **is not** lifted on or prior to September 1, 2020, this policy is effective September 22, 2020 for all FNS households that are active in September 2020. Submit any questions regarding this policy to Operational Support Team (OST) at DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



David Locklear, Deputy Director
Economic and Family Services Section

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