Purpose

PROVIDE information for determining income eligibility for persons applying for CSFP benefits.

REPLACE Item 4212, Income Eligibility
REPLACE Item 4212.2, Determining Household income

DELETE Item 4214, Categorical Eligibility

Implementation

Immediately

Background

CSFP recipients may participate in other nutrition assistance programs administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Texas Commodity Assistance Program (TEXCAP), and the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). Women, infants and children who receive SNAP and TANF benefits may also participate in CSFP.

Seniors receiving SNAP benefits may participate in CSFP provided they meet the income eligibility requirements. Seniors participating in CSFP are automatically eligible to participate in SFMNP.

continued

This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice
REPLACE Item 4212 with the following:

On the day of certification, applicants must meet CSFP income eligibility guidelines.

Women, infants and children:

- Household income must be at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.
- Women, infants and children eligible for CSFP who receive SNAP or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) benefits are automatically eligible to participate in the CSFP, regardless of income, provided they meet other CSFP eligibility requirements.

Elderly persons (age 60 and older):

- Household income must be at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.
- Eligibility for SNAP benefits does not make seniors automatically eligible for CSFP benefits. Senior applicants must meet the income eligibility guidelines for CSFP.

See Form H1665, *Income Eligibility Guidelines for Woman, Infants and Children*, and Form H1666, *Income Eligibility Guidelines for the Elderly*. Also, FND posts the updated federal income guidelines online each year. You may obtain a copy of the federal income guidelines by accessing the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) website at [www.snptexas.org](http://www.snptexas.org). Click on “Income Eligibility.”

REPLACE Item 4212.2 with the following:

When determining household income, you must calculate the total gross income of all household members before deductions.

**NOTE:** Total net household income is not valid when determining income eligibility.

The following items are considered valid forms of proof of income:

- Pay stub for the previous month;
- Medicaid card;
- Copy of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) check or award letter; or
- SNAP benefits award letter (however, SNAP benefits are not considered income).

**NOTE:** Eligibility for SNAP benefits for seniors does not automatically qualify them for CSFP. To participate in both programs, seniors must meet income eligibility standards for each program.
**Procedure continued**

**NOTE:** The following items are excluded from consideration as income for households and children when determining program eligibility:

- SNAP benefits;
- Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance;
- National Flood Insurance Program payments;
- Medicare Prescription Drug Card subsidy; and

**NOTE:** The value of CSFP benefits may not be considered as income or resources when determining eligibility for other public assistance programs.

**Authority**

Food Distribution National Policy Memorandum, FD-096, Simultaneous Participation in CSFP and other Nutrition Assistance Programs administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), October 5, 2009.

**Contact**

If you have any questions, please contact your Commodity Distribution Specialist.