

NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVPUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well-Being

November 5, 2025

Dear County Directors of Social Services,

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Administrators, Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Update for November Partial Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Benefits

Priority: Information Only and Action

This letter is sent as a follow up to the [Update on Status of November 2025 SNAP Benefit Suspension and Phase 1 of H.R. 1 Reconciliation Bill Implementation for SNAP Eligibility Determinations - Information and Action Required](#) that was transmitted to counties on November 3, 2025. USDA issued a memorandum earlier today to State Agencies ordering a reduction of SNAP allotments for November 2025. USDA is reducing SNAP maximum allotments to 50 percent of an eligible household's current allotment. USDA's Reduced Allotments tables is attached this transmittal. The reduction is effective November 1, 2025.

We are working to process these partial payments as quickly as possible.

Reduction of Benefits

NC FAST is actively working to implement USDA's November 2025 revised issuance table. Based on the revised issuance table the maximum FNS allotments amounts for all household sizes shall be reduced by 50 percent. For example, the reduction for all four-person households will be calculated as follows: The maximum FNS allotment amount for a four-person household (\$994 in November 2025) will be reduced by 50% to \$497. Then 30 percent of the household's net FNS income will be deducted from the reduced maximum FNS allotment amount. For example, 30 per cent of a net income of \$667, \$200, would be deducted from the reduced maximum FNS allotments amount (\$497), resulting in a reduced allotment of \$297. Prior to the reduction of November maximum allotments by USDA, that household would have received \$794 in November benefits.

After NC FAST is programmed to use the revised allotment table, reduced FNS benefits issuance files will be sent to the Department's EBT Vendor, Fidelity Insurance Services (FIS), through November 8th.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

LOCATION: 1915 Health Services Way Raleigh, NC 27607
MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

In applying the reduction, and in accordance with Federal law, all one- and two-person households impacted will continue to receive at least the minimum monthly benefit specified in the attached allotment table (\$12).

Note: The reduction applies to November 2025 benefit issuance and does not impact any prior benefits. NC will send the remaining October 2025 benefits issuance files to FIS this evening.

Notice to Households

FNS households will be notified by a press release of the reduction in benefits in accordance with the mass change notice requirements. A notice of adverse action is **NOT** required for households affected by this reduction.

Application Processing Procedures

While the current reduction is in effect, Counties must continue to **accept and process all applications** for benefits, including expedited applications, under usual procedure and timelines. Expedited applications must continue to be processed within 7 calendar days of the date of the application. The criteria for determining a household's eligibility remain unchanged. For applicants who qualify during this period, and provided that funding continues to be available, FNS benefit amounts will be calculated using the revised maximum allotment issuance tables.

USDA will provide funding in November to cover administrative expenses to implement the reduction and ensure new applications and any case changes are accepted and processed. Counties must limit administrative expense only to the activities necessary to support eligibility and issuance processes, integrity/oversight, and system maintenance.

Certification period remains unchanged

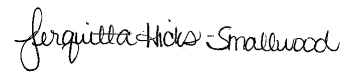
The reduction has no effect on the certification period assigned to the household. Households with certification periods expiring during November must continue to recertify under normal policy and procedure.

Fair Hearings

NCDHHS will not hold fair hearings for participants who request a fair hearing solely to dispute the fact that a reduction in their FNS benefits allotment has been ordered by USDA. Counties are instructed to deny fair hearing requests to households who are solely disputing the fact that a reduction was ordered. Counties must carefully discern the reason for the household's hearing request before denying the request under 7 CFR 271.7(f). Refer to [Updates on USDA's Suspension of November 2025 SNAP Benefit Issuances and Fair Hearing Requests - Information and Action](#) transmitted to counties on October 31, 2025, regarding fair hearing requests.

If you have questions, please submit them to Continuous Quality Improvement Support (CQIS): dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerquitta Hicks-Smallwood". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Jerquitta" being more prominent than the last name.

Jerquitta Hicks-Smallwood

Assistant Director

Division of Child and Family Well-Being

Attachment (1)

November 2025 Benefit Guidance Reduction Tables

JHS/vb

EFS-FNSEP-21-2025