### What's Changed on 08/30/2021

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Change: Lottery or Gambling Winnings

Change: Federal Fiscal Year 2022 SNAP Cost-of-Living Adjustment

Reminder: Recorded Telephonic Signature

Reminder: End of PUA and PEUC UI Benefits

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Reformat Update

This page notifies staff and the public of changes to the Cash and Nutrition Assistance Policy (CNAP) Manual regarding policy, procedures, and forms. Reminders and general information may also be displayed on this page. Prior What's Changed pages are listed in <u>FAA6.R01</u> of the CNAP Manual.

The above list summarizes the information on this page. Within the CNAP Manual, each item listed above links to screens below. This page must be discussed during the weekly <u>policy</u> <u>dissemination</u> in every office which determines eligibility, reviews eligibility, or answers questions regarding eligibility. (<u>Current week's FAA-1215A</u>)

# Change: Lottery or Gambling Winnings

EFFECTIVE DATE: With all applications received on or after 08/30/2021

This change has been made to align with the federal requirement of disqualifying NA budgetary units with the gross substantial lottery or gambling winnings of \$3500 or more.

When any participant in an NA budgetary unit receives the gross lottery or gambling winnings of \$3500 or more in a single game, the entire budgetary unit is no longer eligible for NA benefits.

When the verification is not provided with the reported change, send the Information Needed (F011) notice to verify the receipt of lottery or gambling winnings of \$3500 or more.

When verified, deny or close the case with the WN denial or closure reason code and send the Lottery Denial/Closure (F208) notice allowing for a notice of adverse action (NOAA). When verification is not provided, stop the benefits allowing for NOAA on the next workday after the information due date and send the appropriate closure notice.

The budgetary unit may reapply at any time for NA benefits. When the budgetary unit reapplies, <u>categorical eligibility</u> criteria does not apply. The application is processed under the following income and resource standards:

- The budgetary unit's gross monthly income cannot exceed the 130% of the current <u>Federal Poverty Limit (FPL)</u>.
- Resources must be verified to determine that the budgetary unit meets the NA resource limit.

When the budgetary unit reapplies, any remaining lottery or gambling winnings are countable as a resource. The budgetary unit must pass the NA resource limit to be considered eligible for NA benefits again.

Key any money remaining as a resource. When the test displays PASS in the FS Resource Determination (FSRD) AZTECS screen, continue to key all applicable AZTECS screens to process the eligibility determination.

When the case fails the resource determination test, review the information to ensure it is correct. Deny the case on FS Eligibility Determination (FSED) AZTECS screen using the WN denial reason code and send the F208 notice.

NOTE NA budgetary units are required to meet the resource limit upon each reapplication after the ineligibility until they are determined eligible again. Every recertification after that would allow for categorical eligibility.

# Policy reference(s) revised due to this change:

FAA1.A15 – <u>Arizona Simplified Nutrition Assistance</u> <u>Program (AZSNAP)</u>

**Prior Policy** 

Added lottery or gambling winnings reporting information. (Effective with all applications received on or after 08/30/2021)

FAA4.F02A - NA Resources

Prior Policy

Added information about lottery or gambling winnings. (Effective with all applications received on or after 08/30/2021)

FAA4.HO3CCC - Lottery or Gambling Winnings

**Prior Policy** 

Added detailed information regarding lottery or gambling winnings and updated policy title. (Effective with all applications received on or after 08/30/2021)

### Change: Federal Fiscal Year 2022 SNAP Cost-of-Living Adjustment

EFFECTIVE DATE: For the benefit month of 10/2021

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) makes annual changes based on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) changes income limits, deductions, and benefits at the start of the 2022 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), October 1, 2021.

The COLA impacts the NA program, the CA Needy Family Test, and the Compromise Overpayment.

Changes were made to the following references for the FFY 2022 COLA:

- CA Needy Family Test for Income Standards of 100% FPL and 130% FPL
- NA Gross Monthly Income Standard of 130% FPL
- NA Net Monthly Income Standard of 100% FPL
- NA Disabled/Elderly Income Standard of 165% FPL
- Expanded Categorical Income Standard of 185% FPL

- Compromise Overpayment 200% FPL
- NA Standard Deduction Amounts based on NA budgetary unit size
- Homeless Shelter Deduction amount
- NA Maximum Shelter Deduction amount
- Maximum NA Benefit
- Standard Utility and Telephone Allowance
- Minimum NA Benefit
- Maximum NA Resource Limits

# **Important Reminder about the Current System Month:**

The monthly rollover for the CSM of October 2021 is August 29, 2021

After August 29, benefits approved must be authorized in the Current System Month (CSM) of October 2021. FAA Systems completes a mass change on 09/11/2021. NA cases not in the CSM of October 2021 are not updated with the mass change. The FAA workers must authorize benefits in the CSM of October 2021 to ensure participants receive the correct benefit amount.

NA Cases not in the CSM of October must be re-worked, including cases authorized in November or December.

The FFY 2022 SNAP COLA adjustments will be added to the Cash and Nutrition Assistance Policy (CNAP) Manual effective October 01,2021.

# Policy reference(s) revised due to this change:

### FAA6.A01A - Standard Reporting

Prior Policy

Updates for FFY 2022 SNAP COLA. Changed changes in income for Standard Reporting from \$100 to \$125. (Effective for the benefit month of 10/2021)

# Reminder: Recorded Telephonic Signature

A Recorded Telephonic Signature is a voice recording intended to capture the voice authorization of a participant acknowledging they gave the information, answered the questions, understood, and agreed to the information in the document that is being signed. A worker can capture the voice signature of a participant via voice recording, and upload it to HEAplus, or the OnBase Unity forms. This is not to be confused with the Telephonic Signature Waiver, which allows documentation of a verbal attestation and is only approved for initial and renewal applications.

Designated staff includes the FAA Customer Care Centers and Processing Centers, HEAplus Customer Support (Conduent), AHCCCS staff, and Community Assistors. The recordings must be readily accessible to FAA.

For more information, see Signing the Application and Documents in the CNAP Manual.

### Reminder: End of PUA and PEUC UI Benefits

An <u>Urgent Bulletin</u> was emailed on 08/26/2021 to inform staff that the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits are ending in Arizona effective 09/04/2021. The final benefit week payable for both PUA and PEUC is

the benefit week ending 09/04/2021. However, payments may be issued after 09/04/2021 for benefit weeks occurring on or before the same date.

#### PUA:

The PUA income is currently budgeted as non-countable for CA and countable for NA with the UI PU unearned income code. Effective 10/2021, FAA Systems will remove the income coded with the UI PU from all active CA and NA cases. The code will be changed to non-countable for NA on the same month.

Any retroactive PUA payment received on or after 10/2021 is considered as a Lump Sum payment. Key lump sum payments on the LIAS AZTECS screen using the LS Liquid Assets Code.

For new/renewal applications, only budget the actual PUA income participants will receive for the month of 09/2021. Key AC in the FREQ field on UNIC.

#### PEUC:

The PEUC is an extension of the regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) compensation. This income is currently budgeted as non-countable for CA and countable for NA with the UI unearned income code. Since PEUC is coded with the regular UI code, remove the income when a change report is made that the participant is no longer receiving this income.

Any retroactive PEUC payment received on or after 10/2021 is considered as a Lump Sum payment. Key lump sum payments on the LIAS AZTECS screen using the LS Liquid Assets Code.

For new/renewal applications, only budget the actual PEUC income participants will receive for the month of 09/2021. Key AC in the FREQ field on UNIC.

# General Information: Forms Update

Changes to Forms – 08/21/2021 through 08/27/2021

As a reminder, it is important not to save documents on your desktop or a folder. It is better to use the form you need directly from the <u>Document Center</u>. Forms are frequently updated and sometimes the current form must be used for programming purposes.

#### Revised forms:

No forms were revised during the specified period

### Newly created forms:

- AZ Voter Registration Application (FAA-1811A) form (English)
- AZ Voter Registration Application (FAA-1811A-S) form (Spanish)

Revised Marketing Materials (Posters, Pamphlets, Flyers):

No revisions to marketing materials were made during the specified period

Forms Archived from the Document Center

No forms were archived from the Document Center

# **Reformat Update**

The CNAP and CNAP+ Manuals are going through a reformatting project to change the look and feel, move the Table of Contents out of an AZTECS roadmap flow, and reduce the number of references to make it easier to find what is needed. (For additional information regarding the new format, see the <u>Reformat Introductory Video(mp4)</u> or the <u>Reformat Introductory Transcript(pdf)</u>.)

The changes made toward the reformatting project effective this week are as follows:

- The changes chapter (FAA6.A) has been reformatted into the new format previously discussed. Additional procedures may be added to FAA6.A as more areas of the CNAP are reformatted.
- ACTS Alert information from FAA1.C, FAA6.K02, and FAA6.K03 has moved to FAA6.A04
- FAA1.C is now the new Rights and Responsibilities chapter. This chapter is under construction and does not include all rights or responsibilities of the participant or the agency.

NOTE It is recommended to use the Internet favorites only for references in the new format because links to the references in the old format may move while under construction.