

What's Changed on 02/23/2026

[Change: NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility](#)

[Reminder: Keying the Correct Deprivation Code for CA](#)

[Reminder: Verifying Benefit Decreases or Closures](#)

[General Information: Forms 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 [What's Changed History](#) of the CNAP Manual.

The above list summarizes the information on this page. Each item listed above links to the corresponding section below.

Change: NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility

EFFECTIVE DATE: For the benefit month of 03/2026 and ongoing

To reduce errors, the NA Categorical Eligibility Federal Poverty Level (FPL) amount is changing.

The gross income limit for NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility has changed from 185% of the FPL to 130% of the FPL.

Policy reference(s) revised due to this change:

FAA3.D06D.01 – [Sponsored and Non-sponsored LPRs](#)

[Prior Policy 03/01/2026](#)

The NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 130% of the FPL. (Updated as of 02/23/2026; Effective 03/01/2026)

FAA5.I01A – [NA Eligibility and Benefit Determination](#)

[Prior Policy 03/01/2026](#)

The NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 130% of the FPL. (Updated as of 02/23/2026; Effective 03/01/2026)

FAA5.I01B – [NA Categorical Eligibility](#)

[Prior Policy 03/01/2026](#)

The NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 130% of the FPL. (Updated as of 02/23/2026; Effective 03/01/2026)

FAA6.A03J – [NA Categorical Eligibility – Effecting Changes](#)

[Prior Policy 03/01/2026](#)

The NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 130% of the FPL. (Updated as of 02/23/2026; Effective 03/01/2026)

FAA6.J02B.04 – [NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard \(130%\)](#) [Prior Policy 03/01/2026](#)

The NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility Standard changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 130% of the FPL. (Updated as of 02/23/2026; Effective 03/01/2026)

Reminder: Keying the Correct Deprivation Code for CA

A dependent child must be deprived of parental care or support to be potentially eligible for CA. Staff must key the correct Deprivation Code on the Specified Relative and Deprivation (SPRD) screen in AZTECS. This ensures that the correct cases are referred to the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS).

All of the following are Deprivation Codes that can be keyed on SPRD:

- CA for continued absence of a parent
- DE for death of a parent
- DI for disability of a parent
- GD for cases eligible for Grant Diversion
- SP for a single parent of a child going through adoption or artificial insemination
- UP for unemployment or underemployment of a parent

NOTE Deprivation must be verified for CA.

For more information on deprivation codes, see FAA3.A02 titled Deprivation for CA – Overview.

Reminder: Verifying Benefit Decreases or Closures

An [Urgent Bulletin](#) was emailed on 02/20/2026 to align two subsections within FAA6.A03B titled Verifying Reported Changes:

- Budgetary Unit Reported Changes
- Benefit Decreases or Closures due to a Reported Change

Clarified:

When a budgetary unit reports a change that causes a decrease in benefits or complete ineligibility, FAA does not request verification when the participant provides enough information with the change. FAA effects the decrease or closure without additional verification.

General Information: Forms Update

Changes to Forms – 02/14/2026 through 02/20/2026

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 [Document Center](#). 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:

- No forms were revised during the specified period.

Revised Marketing Materials (Posters, Pamphlets, Flyers):

NOTE When a mandatory poster is listed below, offices must order the mandatory poster through the warehouse. Refer to FAA1.C03F titled Communicate with the Public for more information about posters.

- No revisions to marketing materials were made during the specified period.

New Marketing Materials (Posters, Pamphlets, Flyers):

NOTE When a new mandatory poster is listed below, offices must order the mandatory poster through the warehouse. Refer to FAA1.C03F titled Communicate with the Public for more information about posters.

- No new marketing materials were created during the specified period.

Forms and Marketing Materials Archived from the Document Center:

- No forms were archived from the Document Center.