

What's Changed on 05/18/2026

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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: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Categorical Eligibility

EFFECTIVE DATE: The CNAP Manual has been updated as of 05/18/2026.

Previously, whenever a participant was determined eligible for NA, they were categorically eligible for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

TEFAP is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) food distribution program that is administered by the Child and Community Services Division (CCSD) Coordinated Hunger Relief Program. TEFAP help supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost.

On 03/01/2026, the NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility gross income limit changed from 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 200% of the FPL. The participant eligibility for TEFAP remains at 185% of the FPL. Due to the change in the NA Expanded Categorical Eligibility, budgetary units receiving NA are no longer categorically eligible for TEFAP. Budgetary units with a gross income of 185% of the FPL or less may qualify for TEFAP.

Policy reference(s) revised due to this change:

FAA8.A01B – [USDA Food Distribution Programs \(Commodities\)](#)

[Prior Policy 05/18/2026](#)

Removed reference related to any participant receiving NA being categorically eligible for TEFAP (Updated as of 05/18/2026; Effective 05/25/2026)

Clarification: No Longer Meeting an ABAWD Exemption or Work Requirement

When a change report causes a participant to no longer be exempt from the ABAWD time limit, FAA attempts to contact the participant to complete the Screening for NA Work Responsibilities.

When the participant is not available, FAA completes **all** of the following:

- Makes the appropriate changes on WERE and WORW and documents the case file.
- Sends the ABAWD Participation and Referral (F035) notice.

NOTE The participant needs to have SNAP CAN services explained to them at their next renewal.

Additional information on how FAA Screens for NA Work Responsibilities is available at FAA6.B01 titled NA Work Requirements.

Reminder: Reporting ABAWD Changes

When a participant's work or exemption status changes, the participant can report the change by submitting a Nutrition Assistance Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) Time Limits (FAA-1530A) form. The FAA-1530A form is available on the DES Website, in the Documents Center.

During all transactions with participants subject to the ABAWD time limit, FAA staff must inform participants of the availability of the FAA-1530A form.

More information about ABAWD requirements is available at FAA2.M09A titled ABAWD Time Limit and Work Requirement.

Reminder: ESAP Shelter Expenses and Deduction

To ensure Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) households receive the correct shelter expense deduction, FAA staff must complete **all** of the following:

- Review all documents in the case file before keying the EXNS screen.
- Use current hard copy verification instead of the participant statement when hard copy is provided.
- Contact the participant for clarification when the information on the ESAP Renewal (X091) notice is unclear. Use the participant's statement when the information is not questionable.
- Carefully review all itemized expenses on the lease and determine whether each itemized expense is an allowable expense before budgeting when a lease is provided.
- Remove the expense amount from EXNS when the participant is working in exchange for rent.
- Document how the expenses were verified.

See [FAA5.I03A](#) titled Shelter Expenses and Deduction for more information.

Urgent Bulletin Reminder: Changes to Unearned Income Types

An [Urgent Bulletin](#) was issued on 05/15/2026 to inform staff that effective the benefit month of 06/2026, **all** of the following income types are not countable:

- Dividend income which is generally received by owners of stocks or bonds in a corporation and represents a share of the distribution of a corporation's profits.
- Educational income, which includes, and is not limited to, **any** of the following:

American Indian Education Funds.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Educational Assistance Program.

Grants, Loans, Awards, and Scholarships.

IDA Deposits and Withdrawals for Education.

Indian General Welfare Benefits (Public Law 113-168) for Education.

Tribal Loans for Education.

Tuition and School Fee Refunds.

Veterans Administration Educational Income.

Work Study.

WIOA Summer Component Programs (SCP) and Job Corps Educational Income.

- Interest payments, which include **any** of the following:

Capital investments such as stocks and bonds.

Checking or savings accounts.

Cryptocurrency accounts.

Mortgage or sales contract.

- Royalties, which are often received by **one or more** of the following:

Authors.

Composers.

Inventors.

Owners of land, grazing interest, mining, or oil lease.

AZTECS converts the income type to countable or not countable based on the income type code keyed on the Unearned Income (UNIN) and Unearned Income Education (UNIE) screens.

For additional information regarding verification and keying procedures, refer to **any** of the following:

- FAA4.H01B.23 titled Dividends and Royalties
- FAA4.H01B.25 titled Educational Income and Expenses
- FAA4.H01B.37 titled Interest Payments

NOTE The CNAP+ Manual references listed above will be updated to clarify that the income types are not countable. Once the changes to the CNAP+ Manual are completed, staff will be notified through the weekly What's Changed webpage.

General Information: Forms Update

Changes to Forms – 05/09/2026 through 05/15/2026

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.