

Urgent Bulletin

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Temporary Increase to the Thrifty Food Plan and the NA Minimum Allotment (Amended) 01/08/2021

Program Impact: NA

This Urgent Bulletin is being issued to inform staff that effective 01/01/2021 the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) amounts increased by 15% over the 10/2020 established maximum benefit amounts. The minimum NA allotment also increased to \$19. This increase is granted by the approval of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (PL 116-260).

NOTE: This increase does not apply to participants receiving AZSNAP benefits.

This increase is temporary and effective from 01/01/2021 through 06/30/2021.

This increase may change the amount of NA benefits a household receives.

The following chart displays the maximum allotment for each household size:

NA Budgetary Unit Size	10/2020 Thrifty Food Plan	Temporary Thrifty Food Plan 01/01/2021 through 06/30/2021
1	\$204	\$234
2	\$375	\$430
3	\$535	\$616
4	\$680	\$782
5	\$807	\$929
6	\$969	\$1114
7	\$1071	\$1232
8	\$1224	\$1408
Each Additional Participant Add	\$153	+\$176

FAA Systems will run a mass change on 01/16/2021 to update the 02/2021 benefits and send the Agency Action on NA Benefits X606 notice to inform households of the potential change. For the month of 01/2021, FAA Systems will run an ad hoc to add supplements to the affected households' EBT cards. FSBH will display the increased 01/2021 amount as a supplement.

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For the months of 02/2021 through 06/2021 the allotment increase will be added to the household's normal monthly allotment shown on FSBH.

Beginning 01/12/2021 all NA cases authorized for 02/2021 will include the 15% increase. All NA approval and change notices will include the following additional language: **The benefit amount indicated for February 2021 through June 2021 includes a temporary increase to your normal benefit based on the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (PL 116-260). This temporary increase will expire effective July 2021.**

Prior to the end of the temporary increase, households will be notified in 06/2021 via mass mailing, that the temporary increase will expire with their 07/2021 allotment.

Any increase to a participant's benefits as a result of this temporary change to the TFP will be disregarded when determining the amount of a potential overpayment.

Please contact the FAA Policy Support Team by phone at (602) 774-5523 or by e-mail at FAAPolicyMgmt@azdes.gov with any questions or concerns regarding this broadcast.

Please consider the environment before printing this broadcast.

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