

#### **04 Nutrition Assistance Categorical Eligibility - Overview**

**REVISION 45**  
(01/01/17 – 12/31/17)

When a budgetary unit is NA categorically eligible, all participants that are included and eligible to receive NA in the budgetary unit are categorically eligible.

Categorically eligible budgetary units include the following household types:

- Basic Categorical Eligibility (BCE)
- Expanded Categorical Eligibility (ECE)
- Special Basic Categorical (SBC)
- Special Expanded Categorical (SEC)

NA Categorical Eligibility (Basic or Expanded) does not exist when a participant is disqualified and coded DF on SEPA.  
(See [NA Participants Keyed as DF](#))

[Basic NA Categorical Eligibility \(BCE\)](#) exists when the budgetary unit does not have a participant coded DF on SEPA and ALL budgetary unit members receive any of the following:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Any of the following types of cash grant:
  - Cash Assistance
  - Grant Diversion
  - Kinship Foster Care
  - Refugee Cash Assistance
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Payments
  - Tribal TANF

[Expanded Categorical Eligibility \(ECE\)](#) exists when ALL of the following apply to the budgetary unit:

- The NA budgetary unit does not meet BCE requirements
- Gross income is below 185% of the federal poverty level
- The resources of all participants coded DI on SEPA do not exceed the NA resource limit
- The budgetary unit does not include a participant coded DF on SEPA

Special Basic Categorical (SBC) and Special Expanded Categorical (SEC) exists when a [special household](#) meets either basic or expanded CE criteria.

**AZTECS** displays the indicated NA Case Type Code in the HH TYP field on FSAD and FSBH in the following situations:

- BCE when the NA budgetary unit is determined to be eligible for [Basic Categorical Eligibility](#).

NOTE BC displays in the TYPE field on CAP2.

- ECE when the NA budgetary unit is determined to be eligible for [Expanded Categorical Eligibility](#).

NOTE EC displays in the TYPE field on CAP2.

- SBC when the budgetary unit is a special household and determined to be eligible for basic categorical eligibility with [special considerations](#).

NOTE SB displays in the TYPE field on CAP2.

- SEC when the budgetary unit is a special household and determined to be eligible for expanded categorical eligibility with [special considerations](#).

NOTE SE displays in the TYPE field on CAP2.

A budgetary unit is not categorically eligible (Basic or Expanded) when any of the [NA Categorically Eligible Exceptions](#) apply.

Policy and procedures regarding NA categorical eligibility are outlined as follows:

- [Basic Categorical Eligibility](#)
- [Expanded Categorical Eligibility](#)
- [Resources of Categorically Eligible Participants](#)
- [Categorical Eligibility Benefit Calculation](#)
- [Nutrition Assistance Categorical Eligibility Exceptions](#)
- [No Pay Status](#)
- [Categorical Eligibility Verification](#)
- [Changes in Categorical Eligibility](#)

Archived (Valid until 02/22/22)