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3000.00.00 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

Each program has separate standards established by law or regulation which must be used to determine eligibility for assistance. This chapter includes information on the following:

- Resource Limits (Section 3005);
- Facility Private Pay Rate (Section 3006);
- Income/Need Standards (Section 3010);
- Dependent Care Standards (Section 3015);
- Utility Standards (Section 3020);
- SNAP Related Standards (Section 3025);
- Work Expense Disregard (Section 3030);
- Maximum Benefits (Section 3050); and

3005.00.00 RESOURCE LIMITS

The resource limit is the maximum value of non-exempt resources which an assistance group (AG) may retain in order to be eligible for assistance. The following sections list the limits for each program.

3005.05.00 RESOURCE LIMITS (S)

The resource limit is \$2250 for all AGs that do not include an elderly or disabled member effective 10/1/17.

The resource limit is \$3500 for any AG which contains a member age 60 or older or a member who is blind or disabled according to the policy in Section 3210.10.25.05.

The resource limit for BBCE eligible assistance groups is \$5000 effective 1/1/2018.

3005.10.00 RESOURCE LIMITS (C)

The resource limit is \$1000 for applicants. (f1)

For recipients, the resource limit is \$1,500. (f2)

3010.00.00 INCOME/NEED STANDARDS

Income and Need Standards are the maximum income or expense consideration that is given to an AG in order to determine financial eligibility. For some programs, both a gross income and net income comparison are necessary. The specific income or need standards of each program are discussed in the following sections.

3010.05.00 INCOME STANDARDS (S)

This chart lists the SNAP Program's maximum monthly gross and net income standards. For financial eligibility to exist, income may not exceed these standards. The maximum gross income amounts are based on 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the maximum net income amounts are based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Following are the amounts effective 10/01/17.

AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME	AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1307	\$1005	6	\$3571	\$2747
2	1760	1354	7	4024	3095
3	2213	1702	8	4477	3444
4	2665	2050	9	4930	3793
5	3118	2399	10	5383	4142
Each Additional Member (gross) + \$453			Each Additional Member (net) + \$349		

3010.05.05 Income Standards - Elderly/Disabled Separate AG (S)

This chart lists the SNAP Program's maximum monthly gross and net income standards for AGs containing an elderly or disabled member. The maximum gross income amounts are based on 165% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the maximum net income amounts are based on 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Following are the amounts effective 10/01/17. The elderly/disabled status of an ineligible member will not qualify the AG for the elderly/disabled income standard.

AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME	AG SIZE	MAXIMUM GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	MAXIMUM NET MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1659	\$1005	5	\$3958	\$2399
2	2233	1354	6	4532	2747
3	2808	1702	7	5107	3095
4	3383	2050	8	5682	3444

Each Additional Member (gross) + \$575

Each Additional Member (net) + \$349

3010.10.00 NEEDS STANDARDS (C)

The need standard is the maximum expense consideration given to a Cash Assistance group. It is a flat maintenance allowance which varies by AG participating member size and composition. One chart lists the need standard for an AG with a recipient parent and/or caretaker, and the second chart lists the standard for an AG with children only. (f3)

NEED STANDARD			
AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER			
AG SIZE	NEED STANDARD	AG SIZE	NEED STANDARD
1	\$155	6	\$515
2	255	7	580
3	320	8	645
4	385	9	710
5	450	10	775

Each Additional Member + \$65

NEED STANDARD

AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY

AG SIZE	NEED STANDARD	AG SIZE	NEED STANDARD
1	\$155	6	\$480
2	220	7	545
3	285	8	610
4	350	9	675
5	415	10	740
Each Additional Member	+ \$65	Each Additional Member	+ \$65

3010.15.00 185% INCOME STANDARDS (C)

This chart lists the maximum monthly gross income and net income standards for Cash Assistance groups. The gross income standard is used when the 185% test is completed for initial eligibility for all cash assistance groups. For financial eligibility to exist, income must be less than these standards. The gross income standard is 185% of the need standard, and the net income standard is 90% of the need standard. There are separate charts for AGs which include a recipient parent/caretaker and AGs which only include children.

This chart lists the maximum monthly gross income and net income standards for Cash Assistance groups.

INCOME STANDARD

AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER

AG SIZE	GROSS INCOME STANDARD	NET INCOME STANDARD	AG SIZE	GROSS INCOME STANDARD	NET INCOME STANDARD
1	\$ 286.75	\$139.50	6	\$ 952.75	\$463.50
2	471.75	229.50	7	1073.00	522.00
3	592.00	288.00	8	1193.25	580.50
4	712.25	346.50	9	1313.50	639.00
5	832.50	405.00	10	1433.75	697.50
Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50			Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50		

INCOME STANDARD

AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY

AG SIZE	GROSS INCOME STANDARD	NET INCOME STANDARD	AG SIZE	GROSS INCOME STANDARD	NET INCOME STANDARD
1	\$ 286.75	\$ 139.50	6	\$ 888.00	\$ 432.00
2	407.00	198.00	7	1008.25	490.50
3	527.25	256.50	8	1128.50	549.00
4	647.50	315.00	9	1248.75	607.50
5	767.75	373.50	10	1369.00	666.00
Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50			Each Additional Member + \$120.25 + \$58.50		

3010.15.05 100% Income Standards (C)

This chart lists the maximum monthly countable net income standards and the adjusted needs standard for cash assistance for a TANF AG. The countable net income standard is 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. The adjusted needs standard is 90% of the need standard. There are separate charts for AG's which include a recipient

parent/caretaker and AG's which only include children.

An AG will lose eligibility when its countable net income equals or exceeds 100% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of the same size. (f4)

INCOME STANDARD					
AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER					
AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD	AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD
1	\$1012	\$139.50	6	\$2812	\$463.50
2	\$1372	\$229.50	7	\$3172	\$522.00
3	\$1732	\$288.00	8	\$3532	\$580.50
4	\$2092	\$346.50	9	\$3892	\$639.00
5	\$2452	\$405.00	10	\$4252	\$697.50
For AG sizes 11-24, see ICES Table TMIS (or add \$360 per person) - effective 3/1/18.					

INCOME STANDARD					
AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY					
AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD	AG SIZE	COUNTABLE NET INCOME STANDARD	ADJUSTED NEEDS STANDARD
1	\$1012	\$139.50	6	\$2812	\$432.00
2	\$1372	\$198.00	7	\$3172	\$490.50
3	\$1732	\$256.50	8	\$3532	\$549.00
4	\$2092	\$315.00	9	\$3892	\$607.50
5	\$2452	\$373.50	10	\$4252	\$666.00
For AG sizes 11-24, see ICES Table TMIS (or add \$360 per person) - effective 3/1/18.					

3015.00.00 DEPENDENT CARE STANDARDS (S)

The dependent care standard is the maximum expense deduction for dependent care costs that is allowed for an assistance group in order to determine financial eligibility or provide child care payment. The actual cost of care up to the standard amount is allowed. Effective 10/08 there is no maximum expense deduction for dependent care costs for SNAP. The assistance group's actual cost is allowed as a deduction in the budget unless it is already accounted for by another expense, such as excess medical expense.

3020.00.00 UTILITY STANDARDS (S)

Four Utility Standards exist for SNAP. The first Utility Standard is available to AG's which have a primary heating/cooling expense or receive or expect to receive LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program). This standard amount is \$400 regardless of AG size. The second Utility Standard is available to AG's which do not have a primary heating/ cooling expense but do have at least two of the expenses included in this standard (electricity or fuel for purposes other than heating or cooling, water, sewerage, well and septic tank installation and maintenance, telephone and garbage or trash collection). This standard amount is \$244 regardless of AG size. Both standards include the standard telephone amount regardless of whether the AG has a current telephone expense.

The third standard may be used if the AG has other than heating/cooling expenses or a telephone. The single standard is \$54.

The fourth option is allowed if the AG has a basic telephone expense but no other expenses. The telephone standard is \$29.

3025.00.00 SNAP RELATED STANDARDS (S)

In the calculation of the SNAP budget, certain standard deductions are allowed in addition to the deductions stated in the previous sections. The following sections discuss the earned income deduction and the standard deduction.

3025.05.00 EARNED INCOME DEDUCTION (S)

Twenty percent (20%) of gross earned income is allowed as an earned income deduction in the financial eligibility determination. No additional deductions are allowed from earned income except for costs of self-employment. (f26)

3025.10.00 STANDARD DEDUCTION (S)

All assistance groups receive a flat standard deduction in the financial eligibility determination. This deduction varies according to household size and is adjusted annually for cost-of-living increases. Larger households receive a higher deduction.

Effective 10/01/17 the following standard deduction figures apply:

1 Member	\$160
2 Members	\$160
3 Members	\$160
4 Members	\$170
5 Members	\$199
6 Members or More	\$228

3025.15.00 EXCESS SHELTER EXPENSE DEDUCTION (S)

All assistance groups which do not contain an elderly or disabled member(s) may receive a shelter deduction up to a maximum of \$535. See Section 3445.20.05.

An ineligible alien/SSN ineligible individual who is elderly or disabled does not entitle the assistance group to the uncapped shelter deduction. The ineligible alien is subject to the maximum shelter deduction amount.

3030.00.00 WORK EXPENSE DISREGARD (C)

An earned income work expense disregard of \$90 is allowed to participating AG members in the financial eligibility determination. An earned income work expense disregard of \$90 is allowed to nonparticipating AG members.

3050.00.00 MAXIMUM BENEFITS

There is a maximum benefit amount based on AG size for the SNAP and Cash Assistance programs. These maximum amounts are listed in the following sections.

3050.05.00 MAXIMUM BENEFITS (S)

This chart lists the maximum monthly SNAP benefits per AG effective 10/01/17.

<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</u>	<u>AG SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</u>
1	\$ 192	6	\$ 913
2	352	7	1009
3	504	8	1153
4	640	9	1297
5	760	10	1441

Each Additional Member: + \$ 144

3050.10.00 MAXIMUM BENEFITS (C)

The following charts indicate the maximum monthly Cash Assistance benefits per AG based upon the composition of the AG and number of participating members. There are separate charts for AGs which include a recipient parent/caretaker and AGs which only include children.

The maximum benefit is based on 90% of an AG's need standard, rounded down to the next whole dollar.

MAXIMUM BENEFITS			
AG WITH A RECIPIENT PARENT AND/OR CARETAKER			
<u>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</u>	<u>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</u>	<u>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</u>	<u>MAXIMUM BENEFIT</u>
1	\$ 139	6	\$ 463
2	229	7	522
3	288	8	580
4	346	9	639
5	405	10	697

**MAXIMUM BENEFITS
AG WITH RECIPIENT CHILDREN ONLY**

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS	MAXIMUM BENEFIT	PARTICIPATING MEMBERS	MAXIMUM BENEFIT
1	\$ 139	6	\$ 432
2	198	7	490
3	256	8	549
4	315	9	607
5	373	10	666

For AGs containing more than 10 participating members, add \$65 to the need standard (Section 3010.10.00) for each additional AG member. Multiply the need standard by 90% and round down to the nearest dollar.

3099.00.00 FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER 3000

- (f1) 470 IAC 10.3-4-2(1)
- (f2) 470 IAC 10.3-4-2(2)
- (f3) 470 IAC 10.3-4-3
- (f4) 470 IAC 10.3-4-1
- (f26) 7CFR 273.9 (c)