



## **MEPD and TW Bulletin 24-12**

**Date:** Oct. 1, 2024

**To:** Eligibility Services Supervisors and Staff  
Program Managers  
Regional Directors  
Regional Attorneys  
Hearings Officers

**From:** Access and Eligibility Services Program Policy  
State Office 2106

**Subject:** **1. TANF Maximum Grant Amounts**  
**2. SNAP Income Limits, Deductions, and Allotments**

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The information in this bulletin will be included in a future handbook revision. Until the handbook is updated, staff must use the information in this bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the policy information in this bulletin, follow regional procedures.

Active bulletins are posted on the following websites:

- [Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities Handbook \(MEPDH\)](https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/mepdh) at <https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/mepdh/policy-bulletins>;
- [Texas Works Handbook \(TWH\)](https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook) at <https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/texas-works-bulletins>.

## 1. TANF Maximum Grant Amounts

### Background

State law requires the monthly Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) maximum grant amounts be adjusted to 17 percent of the current federal poverty level (FPL). Effective Oct. 1, 2024, Texas HHSC revised the annual TANF maximum grant to reflect the FPL increase.

### Current Policy

#### [TANF](#)

Staff must use the TANF Budgetary Allowances chart effective Oct. 1, 2023, to determine the maximum grant amount for TANF eligibility determination groups (EDGs). ([TWH C-111](#), Income Limits)

### New Policy

#### [TANF](#)

Effective Oct. 1, 2024, staff must use the chart below to determine the maximum grant amount for TANF EDGs. There are no changes in the budgetary or recognizable needs amounts for these eligibility tests.

### ***OTANF Maximum Grants (Effective Oct. 1, 2024)***

Family Size	Non-caretaker Cases	Caretaker Cases Without Second Parent	Caretaker Cases with Second Parent
1	\$126	\$154	---
2	\$182	\$320	\$245
3	\$255	\$370	\$405
4	\$304	\$445	\$455
5	\$391	\$494	\$528
6	\$422	\$568	\$578
7	\$526	\$616	\$649
8	\$577	\$701	\$699
9	\$663	\$752	\$785
10	\$714	\$837	\$835
11	\$799	\$888	\$920
12	\$850	\$973	\$972
13	\$935	\$1,024	\$1,056
14	\$986	\$1,109	\$1,107
15	\$1,070	\$1,159	\$1,192
Each additional person	+ \$85	+ \$85	+ \$85

***Policy for EDGs Processed After September Mass Update***

<b>For the benefit month of:</b>	<b>Use the:</b>
September 2024 or earlier,	<b>Previous</b> maximum grant amount.
October 2024 or later,	<b>Updated</b> maximum grant amount.

**Automation**

The TANF grant amounts in TIERS were updated over the weekend of Aug. 31, 2024. The updated TANF grant amounts are budgeted in TIERS for benefit month October 2024 and ongoing. TIERS converts the benefit amount for TANF EDGs in ongoing status without an override designation and produces a combined Form TF0001, Notice of Case Action, for any SNAP, TANF, or Medical Assistance (MA) EDGs with a benefit change.

**Note:** A TIERS exception report for EDGs not included in the mass update is distributed for staff action. EDGs not updated will receive an explanation of the October cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the next Form TF0001 produced for that EDG.

**Correspondence**

The following language will be included on the Form TF0001 for TANF households with an increased allotment:

*Benefit amounts for many people have changed. This is due to new federal and state laws or rules. Changes go into effect Oct. 1, 2024.*

**Handbook**

Updates to the MEPDH are not required.

The TWH is currently scheduled to be updated in the October 2024 revision.

**Training**

Training is not required.

**Effective Date**

The policy is effective beginning with the October 2024 benefit month.

## 2. SNAP Income Limits, Deductions, and Allotments

### Background

The allotment, deduction, and income amounts for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are adjusted as an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to reflect changes in the federal poverty level (FPL).

Effective Oct. 1, 2024, guidance from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) directs Texas HHSC to revise the following limits and amounts:

- maximum SNAP income limits;
- standard deduction;
- maximum excess shelter deduction;
- standard utility allowance (SUA);
- basic utility allowance (BUA);
- homeless shelter deduction; and
- SNAP allotments.

**Note:** The standard medical expense (SME) deduction, telephone standard and minimum monthly SNAP allotment for one or two-person households did not change.

### Current Policy

#### [SNAP](#)

Staff must use the SNAP income limits, deductions, and allotment amounts effective Oct. 1, 2023, to determine eligibility for SNAP eligibility determination groups (EDGs). ([TWH C-121](#), Maximum Income Limits; [TWH C-121.1](#), Deduction Amounts; [TWH C-1431](#), Whole Monthly Allotments by Household Size)

### New Policy

#### [SNAP](#)

Effective Oct. 1, 2024, staff must use the income limits, deductions, and allotment amounts below to determine eligibility for SNAP EDGs.

This includes households applying after Sept. 13, 2024, who meet the combined allotment eligibility criteria. The updated 130% FPL amounts are used to notify a streamlined reporting household of the reporting requirement at application, recertification, or incomplete review when the action is disposed on or after Oct. 1, 2024. TIERS automatically uses the correct amounts for each month.

**Maximum SNAP Income Limits (Effective Oct. 1, 2024)**

Household Size	Gross (130%)	Net (100%)	165%**
<b>1</b>	\$1,632	\$1,255	\$2,071
<b>2</b>	\$2,215	\$1,704	\$2,811
<b>3</b>	\$2,798	\$2,152	\$3,551
<b>4</b>	\$3,380	\$2,600	\$4,290
<b>5</b>	\$3,963	\$3,049	\$5,030
<b>6</b>	\$4,546	\$3,497	\$5,770
<b>7</b>	\$5,129	\$3,945	\$6,510
<b>8</b>	\$5,712	\$4,394	\$7,249
<b>9</b>	\$6,295	\$4,843	\$7,989
<b>10</b>	\$6,878	\$5,292	\$8,729
Each additional person	+ \$583	+ \$449	+ \$740

\*\*The figures in the 165% column are used to determine if an elderly person with a disability living with others may claim separate household status even though the person purchases or prepares food with the others. The figures in this column are also the gross income limits for categorically eligible households.

**Standard or Maximum Deduction Amounts (Effective Oct. 1, 2024)**

Use the following updated deduction amounts:

- Standard Deduction:
  - If household size is three or less — \$204
  - If household size is four — \$217
  - If household size is five — \$254
  - If household size is six or more — \$291
- SME Deduction — \$170 (minus \$35)
- Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction — \$712
- SUA — \$434
- BUA — \$390
- Telephone Standard — \$61
- Homeless Shelter Deduction — \$190.30

**SNAP Allotment Amounts (Effective Oct. 1, 2024)**

SNAP allotment charts providing the whole monthly allotments by household size are included as an attachment to this bulletin. The minimum monthly SNAP allotment for a one or two-person household remains \$23.

**Policy for EDGs Processed After September Mass Update**

For the benefit month of:	eligibility is determined using the:
September 2024 or earlier,	<b>Previous</b> income limits, standard deduction amount, maximum excess shelter deduction, SUA and BUA, telephone standard, homeless shelter deduction, and allotment amounts for determining that month's benefits.
October 2024 and ongoing,	<p><b>Updated</b> income limits, standard deduction amounts, maximum excess shelter deduction, SUA and BUA, telephone standard, homeless shelter deduction, and allotment amounts for determining that month's benefits.</p> <p>This includes households applying after Sept. 15, 2024, who meet the combined allotment eligibility criteria. The updated 130% FPL amounts are used to notify a streamlined reporting household of the reporting requirement at application, recertification, or incomplete review when the action is disposed on or after Oct. 1, 2024.*</p>

\*TIERS automatically uses the correct amounts for each month.

**Automation**

TIERS updated all active SNAP EDGs during the weekend of Aug. 31, 2024. The updated income limits, deductions, and allotments are budgeted in TIERS for benefit month October 2024 and ongoing. The appropriate income limits, deductions, and allotments are automatically applied for each benefit month, whether the benefit month is before or after the October COLA (including combined allotment situations). TIERS converts the benefit amount for SNAP EDGs in ongoing status without an override designation and produces a combined Form TF0001, Notice of Case Action, for any SNAP, TANF, or Medical Assistance (MA) EDG with a benefit change.

**Note:** A TIERS exception report for EDGs not included in the mass update is distributed for staff action. EDGs not updated will receive an explanation of the October cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the next Form TF0001 produced for that EDG.

**Correspondence**

The following language will be included on the Form TF0001 for SNAP households with an increased or decreased allotment:

*Benefit amounts for many people have changed. This is due to new federal and state laws or rules. Changes go into effect Oct. 1, 2024.*

**Handbook**

Updates to the MEPDH are not required.

The TWH is currently scheduled to be updated in the October 2024 revision.

**Training**

Training is not required.

**Effective Date**

The policy is effective beginning with the October 2024 benefit month.