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**State of Wisconsin  
Governor Jim Doyle**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors  
Income Maintenance Lead Workers  
Income Maintenance Staff  
W-2 Agencies  
Workforce Development Boards  
Job Center Leads and Managers  
Training Staff  
Child Care Coordinators**

**FROM: Vicki Jessup, Policy Section Chief  
Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems  
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability**

BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO					
<b>No: 10-68</b>					
<b>DATE: 09/10/2010</b>					
FS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>	BC+	<input type="checkbox"/>
SC	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	FSET	<input type="checkbox"/>
BC+ Basic	<input type="checkbox"/>	BC+ CORE	<input type="checkbox"/>		
CC	<input type="checkbox"/>	W-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	EA	<input type="checkbox"/>
CF	<input type="checkbox"/>	JAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	JC	<input type="checkbox"/>
RAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/> *
				EP	

**SUBJECT: 2010 FoodShare Mass Change**

**CROSS REFERENCE:** FoodShare Handbook, Chapter 8.1.  
Operations Memo 09-11

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2010

**PURPOSE:**

This memo announces the FoodShare (FS) cost of living adjustments (COLA) and the new Utility Standard amounts for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2011.

**BACKGROUND**

Each year the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) announces any adjustments in the gross and net income limits, the allotment tables, standard deduction amounts, and the excess shelter expense deduction. Adjustments to the standard utility allowance amounts are based on statewide average utility costs.

Allotment amounts will **not** be increasing for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2011 since they were increased with the passage of the Economic Stimulus package that required States to increase the maximum FS benefit allotments by 13.6% effective April 1, 2009. The FoodShare income limits will also not increase for FFY11.

**POLICY:****FS COLA FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2011**

Reference table changes will be made in CARES on September 10, 2010, so that ongoing cases will use the new amounts effective October 1, 2010. The mass change will occur on the weekend of September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The FS mass change will select all FS cases and process eligibility for October using the new reference table changes and standards. Eligibility determinations for FS for October 2010 and later will use the new amounts. These amounts can be found in CARES tables TFST and TFEP. They will be added to Chapter 8.1, of the FS Handbook in an upcoming release.

The following changes are effective October 1, 2010:

**Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction**

The maximum excess shelter deduction will decrease to \$458.

**Income Limit & Allotment Amounts (No Change)**

AG Size	200%FPL Gross Income Limit	165% FPL Gross Income Limit	130% FPL Gross Income Limit	100% FPL Net Income Limit	Maximum Allotment
1	\$1806	\$1490	\$1174	\$903	\$200
2	\$2430	\$2004	\$1579	\$1215	\$367
3	\$3052	\$2518	\$1984	\$1526	\$526
4	\$3676	\$3032	\$2389	\$1838	\$668
5	\$4300	\$3547	\$2794	\$2150	\$793
6	\$4922	\$4061	\$3200	\$2461	\$952
7	\$5546	\$4575	\$3605	\$2773	\$1052
8	\$6170	\$5089	\$4010	\$3085	\$1202
9	\$6794	\$5604	\$4416	\$3397	\$1352
10	\$7418	\$6119	\$4822	\$3709	\$1502
11	\$8042	\$6634	\$5228	\$4021	\$1652
12	\$8666	\$7149	\$5634	\$4333	\$1802

(AG = Assistance Group, FPL = Federal Poverty Level)

**NOTE :** Notices of decision will continue to reflect the current 130% FPL income reporting limits.

**Standard Deduction**

The Standard Deduction is based on the size of the assistance group. This year, only the standard deduction for group sizes 1-3 will increase.

AG Size	Standard Deduction Amount
1-3	\$142
4	\$153
5	\$179
6 or more	\$205

### **New Standard Utility Allowances**

The new Heating Standard Utility Allowance (HSUA) used for all FoodShare eligibility determinations is \$433, effective October 1, 2010. The other standard utility amounts are used only for Medicaid and will be updated in the Medicaid Eligibility Handbook (MEH) in an upcoming release.

Standard	Allowance	Definition
HSUA	\$433	Heating
LUA	\$299	No heat, with at least two other utility expenses
PUA	\$33	Telephone

### ***PROCEDURE:***

Any cases that are run for FS eligibility on/after September 13, 2010, will have the new SUA standard amounts applied effective October 1, 2010.

### ***CONTACTS:***

BEPS CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

\*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, BC+ Core – BadgerCare Plus Core, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

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