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Baker Administration Announces SNAP Benefit Increase

September 28th, 2022

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that approximately 550,000 Massachusetts households who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will see an increase starting in their October 2022 benefits. In response to the annual cost of living adjustment, SNAP benefits will increase 12%, with Massachusetts households receiving an average monthly increase of \$25-\$30.

Every year, the federal government adjusts SNAP benefit amounts to keep pace with inflation. In addition, SNAP benefit levels are determined in part by the average cost of utilities for Massachusetts households. This summer, the Commonwealth requested and received approval from the federal government to adjust heating costs used to determine SNAP benefit amounts, reflecting the regional rise in the cost of utilities. This change will be reflected in the SNAP benefit amount increases starting October 1, 2022.

Maximum Monthly SNAP Amount

Household Size	Old Amount	Effective October 1: New Amount
1	\$250	\$281
2	\$459	\$516
3	\$658	\$740
4	\$835	\$939
5	\$992	\$1,116
6	\$1,190	\$1,339
7	\$1,316	\$1,480
8	\$1,504	\$1,691
Each additional person	+ \$188	+ \$211

Minimum Monthly SNAP Amount

Household Size	Old Amount	New Amount
1-2 Persons	\$20	\$23

At this time, residents will continue to also receive the temporary extra, pandemic-related SNAP emergency allotments. SNAP emergency allotments are available at the beginning of each month and bring people's benefit up to at least the maximum amount for their household size, with a minimum payment of \$95 a month. DTA will notify residents when these temporary payments end. These payments have been available since March 2020, bringing over \$90 million of federal funds into the local economy each month.

Residents can check their SNAP eligibility and apply online at www.DTAConnect.com or on the DTA Assistance Line at 877-382-2363 (press 7). SNAP is not considered in a public charge test. If one is not a US citizen or eligible immigrant, it is safe for them to get SNAP for an eligible family member (like a US citizen child). Currently, households are temporarily receiving increased SNAP benefit amounts and it is now easier than ever to apply.