

STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Montgomery, Alabama

Administrative Letter No. 7323

Date: 01/04/10

TO

DIRECTORS, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN RESOURCES

FROM *MLM*
Mary Lois Monroe, Director, Food Assistance Division

TRANSMITTAL OF REVISION TO:
Points of Eligibility Manual

Revision Number: 163

Effective Date: February 1, 2010

TYPE OF REVISION/ ACTION REQUIRED

- New Chapter Material Change to Chapter Material Other (specify)
 Update to Appendix Deletion from Appendix

UPON RECEIPT, REVIEW, IMPLEMENT, AND REVISE YOUR MANUAL.

Page/Section Number

**Points of Eligibility Manual, Chapter 2, Section 209
Chapter 8, Sections 801 and 802**

Subject/Description of Revision

Expanded Categorical Eligibility

Effective February 1, 2010, categorical eligibility will be expanded to include all households in which any member receives, is authorized to receive, or benefits from the Family Assistance information and referral program using the newly developed pamphlet entitled "**Putting It Together For Those Who Need Us**", number 09-3 transmitted to you by memorandum from Terrie Reid dated January 5, 2010. This pamphlet provides information about DHR Programs including contact information as well as information on some TANF partner programs and services. This change is allowable as Federal regulations provide states the option to extend categorical eligibility to any household authorized to receive services (in this instance the referenced pamphlet) funded by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. Adopting this option provides further program simplification.

To implement, the pamphlet must be given to all households whose income falls at or below 130% of the federal poverty level (FPL) or 200% of the FPL if all household members are elderly or disabled. The pamphlet is self-explanatory. No additional discussion of the contents will be needed during the Food Assistance interview. The pamphlet must be mailed to those households for which a telephone interview is conducted. The front of the case record must contain documentation that the information and referral services pamphlet was given to the food assistance household and the date. It is not necessary that the pamphlet be distributed again if the case file indicates that one has previously been provided.

Households that are certified to receive food assistance benefits under expanded categorical eligibility rules will have their resources excluded when determining eligibility for food assistance benefits but must continue to meet the food assistance non-financial eligibility criteria.

A household is not categorically eligible if:

- It contains an intentional program violation member.
- It has a member who is a convicted drug felon.
- It contains a member who has failed to comply with work requirements.
- The household has failed to comply with simplified reporting requirements.
- An elderly/disabled household's gross income exceeds 200% of the FPL.
- It contains an elderly or disabled member and the household's net income exceeds 100% of the FPL.

The resources of all members in these households are counted when determining eligibility for benefits. Policy in the Points of Eligibility Manual, Chapter 8, Resource Eligibility Standards, will continue to apply to those households who are not eligible under expanded categorical eligibility rules.

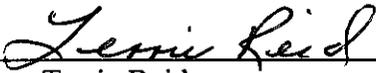
This policy change is effective with all applications approved on or after February 1, 2010, for the month of February as well as for interviews conducted beginning February 1. For applications determined to be over the resource limit prior to February 1, 2010, benefits must be denied for that time. If a household files an application in January 2010, and has countable liquid resources in excess of the allowable limits, the application must be denied for January, and if eligible under expanded categorical eligibility rules, approved for February 2010 without a new application, provided all other points of eligibility are met including delivery of the pamphlet to the household.

The enclosed attachment lists the maximum food assistance income limits (Federal Poverty Level) per household size.

An initial supply of the pamphlet will be sent to each county by General Services and should be delivered by the end of January. These pamphlets may be reordered according to usual procedures.

If you have questions regarding this policy and the application of this policy, please contact the Food Assistance Policy Desk following usual procedures.

Distribution:
Points of Eligibility Manual Holders

Approved	
Signature	Terrie Reid
Title	Deputy Commissioner for Family Resources
Date	01/12/2010

Food Assistance Limits

Gross/Net Income Limits and Maximum Allotments

HH SIZE	200% FPL ELDERLY/DISABLED	165% FPL ELDERLY/DISABLED GROSS INCOME	130% FPL GROSS INCOME	100% FPL NET INCOME	MAXIMUM ALLOTMENT
1	\$1,806	1,490	1,174	903	200
2	2,430	2,004	1,579	1,215	367
3	3,052	2,518	1,984	1,526	526
4	3,676	3,032	2,389	1,838	668
5	4,300	3,547	2,794	2,150	793
6	4,922	4,061	3,200	2,461	952
7	5,542	4,575	3,605	2,773	1,052
8	6,170	5,089	4,010	3,085	1,202
EACH ADD. MEM.	624	515	406	312	150