



Mississippi Department of Human Services

Press Release

Media Contact: Julia Bryan
Phone: 601-359-4517
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Change in Benefits Announced for SNAP Recipients

(JACKSON, Miss.) – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients will see two changes in their benefit amounts during the fall of 2013.

- The annual increase was added Oct. 1 to SNAP benefits for most households to reflect the change in the cost of living.
- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funds, which bolstered the program beginning April 2009 to help people affected by the recession, will expire Nov. 1.

For example, a family of four receiving the maximum allotment will see a reduction in their SNAP allotment from \$668 to \$632, a decrease of \$36 per month.

“SNAP is a safety net for many residents here in Mississippi. This decrease in available benefits will affect not only the SNAP recipient, but grocers and markets across the state,” said Mississippi Department of Human Services Executive Director Rickey Berry.

“MDHS administers the federal program and has no control over the cuts. SNAP is intended to be a supplement to eligible households so I encourage anyone in need of food assistance to complete an application so that eligibility may be determined,” continued Berry.

In Mississippi each month an average of 671,800 people receive in excess of \$83.4 million federal SNAP benefits according to the latest numbers.

For more information on eligibility, go to the MDHS website at http://www.mdhs.state.ms.us/ea_fs.html or contact a local county MDHS office.

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