

Department of Human Services 311 West Saratoga Street Baltimore MD 21201

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT

FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: SUMMER SNAP

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

Background

In the 2019 legislative session a bill established the Maryland Summer SNAP Program as a solution towards reducing food insecurity during the months that children are out of school. For each implementation year, the program is allocated \$200,000 in state funds. Local departments of social services (LDSS) are invited to apply to participate. Participating jurisdictions must supply matching local funds to be a part of the program.

The Maryland Summer SNAP Program aims to address the school meals gap by providing participating children an additional \$30 in SNAP benefits for June, July, and August, and \$10 in December to address the Christmas school break. Summer SNAP benefits will be available on the head of the household's EBT card.

Participation

During each implementation year, 2,000 children could be served within the funding level allocated to the program; and, the required local matches will enable additional children to receive the benefit. Four jurisdictions were approved to participate this year after a competitive application process. The following are the jurisdictions that were selected:

- Kent County
- Montgomery County
- Baltimore City
- Prince George's County

Participants in the Summer SNAP program do not have to do anything to receive the benefits. They will receive the additional amount on the same day they receive their regular SNAP allotment. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the first summer SNAP benefits have been delayed and households should expect to receive their first payments in August or September 2020. The initial Summer SNAP issuance will include benefits for the months of June, July, and August. A subsequent, and last payment of the year, will be issued as scheduled in the month of December.

Eligibility Workers do not have to take any action for this program as well. Summer SNAP was pre-selected based on the criteria set forth by the leadership in each participating jurisdiction.

INOUIRIES

Please direct policy questions to FIA Policy by completing the <u>FIA Policy Information Request Form</u> found on Knowledge Base as shown in the screenshot below.



For systems questions, please email fia.bsdm@maryland.gov.

cc DHS Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services