

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM MANUAL	
MINIMUM STATE SUPPLEMENT	Section 111	Page 1

111.1 Purpose

Maryland Human Services Article §5-501 requires that if a household includes an individual who is at least 62 years old and receives a federally funded Food Supplement Program benefit in an amount less than \$30 per month, the State shall provide a supplement to increase the total benefit to \$30 per month.

111.2 Process

Beginning October 1, 2016, the supplemental benefit automatically posted as cash to the customer's Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) account. After February 24, 2018, the supplement posts as an FSP benefit on the regular FSP benefit issuance date. Customers do not need to complete a new or separate application to apply for the supplemental benefit.

- A. At the end of each month, CARES identifies households eligible for the Minimum State Supplement (MSS) and determines the total amount of State Supplement benefits each household is eligible to receive for the **next calendar month**.
- B. On their FSP benefit issuance day of each month, the eligible households receive their State Supplement benefits along with their regular FSP benefit in their FSP EBT account.

111.3 Special Circumstances for Case Processing

If a household has an outstanding Benefit Error Group (BEG) in recoupment, CARES supplements the difference of the grant amount and \$30, not the difference of the benefit amount and \$30. For example: if a household has a grant amount of \$15 but an outstanding BEG in recoupment that is recouping \$10, the household's current benefit amount is \$5. The MSS benefit will be issued for \$15, bringing the total benefit amount to \$20.