

FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Policy Number:	#25-10
Policy Title:	Discontinued Federal Restoration of Stolen Benefits
Release Date:	February 19, 2025
Effective Date:	Immediately Upon Receipt
Approved By:	Augustin Ntabaganyimana Executive Director Family Investment Administration
Revision Date(s):	Not applicable.
Supersedes:	AT 24-31 Supplemental Information Regarding AT 23-09 Restoration of Stolen Benefits
Originating Office:	Office of Programs Office of Nutrition Assistance Programs
Required Actions:	Benefits stolen on or after December 21, 2024 must be replaced with State funds.
Key Words:	Replacement, Stolen Benefits, Theft, Fraud
Related Federal Law	American Relief Act of 2025, Pub. L. No. 118-158 (2025)
Related State Laws	Human Servs. Article § 5-609 and Human Servs. Article § 5-610 , Ann. Code of Md.
COMAR	Not applicable.
State Plan Implications?	Yes.

Supersedes: AT 24-31 Phase III Restoration of Stolen Benefits, Issued February 6, 2024.



Maryland
 Department of
 Human Services
 Department of Human Services
 25 S Charles Street
 Baltimore MD 21201

**FAMILY INVESTMENT
 ADMINISTRATION (FIA)
 ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

Control Number: # 25-10

Effective Date: Immediately

Issuance Date: February 19, 2025

**TO: LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES (LDSS)
 DIRECTORS, LDSS DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR
 FAMILY INVESTMENT, FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND
 ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

FROM: AUGUSTIN NTABAGANYIMANA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**RE: DISCONTINUED FEDERAL RESTORATION OF STOLEN
 BENEFITS**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
 PROGRAM (SNAP), DISASTER SNAP (DSNAP),
 MINIMUM STATE SUPPLEMENT (MSS), HEAT
 AND EAT (H-EAT), MARYLAND SUN BUCKS
 (S-EBT), TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE
 (TCA), TEMPORARY DISABILITY ASSISTANCE
 PROGRAM (TDAP), PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TO
 ADULTS (PAA), REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE
 (RCA), TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES
 (TSS), CHILD SUPPORT PASSTHROUGH,
 PANDEMIC EBT (P-EBT)**

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

Summary

This Action Transmittal details the changes to the replacement of stolen benefits that have occurred as a result of President Joseph R. Biden signing the [American Relief Act of 2025 \(P.L. 118-158\)](#) into law on December 21, 2024.

Policy

The [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023](#) created provisions allowing for federal funds to be used for the replacement of SNAP benefits that were stolen between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2024. The [Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act of 2025](#) extended this authority through

Supersedes: AT 24-31 Phase III Restoration of Stolen Benefits, Issued February 6, 2024.

December 20, 2024. Most recently, President Joseph R. Biden signed the [American Relief Act of 2025 \(P.L. 118-158\)](#) into law on December 21, 2024. The American Relief Act of 2025 does not contain an extension in authority for the replacement of SNAP benefits stolen via card skimming, card cloning, and other similar fraudulent methods using Federal funds. Therefore, the authority to replace stolen benefits with federal funds ended on December 20, 2024. As detailed in [AT 24-31 Supplemental Information Regarding AT 23-09 Restoration of Stolen Benefits](#), Maryland has previously identified funding to replace benefits not eligible for replacement using Federal funds. As such, any benefits stolen on or after December 21, 2024 will be replaced using State funds.

Eligibility for Federally Funded Replacement of Stolen Benefits

In order for the replacement of stolen benefits to be Federally funded, the following conditions must be met:

- A. SNAP or DSNAP must be the type of benefit stolen.
- B. The claim for replacement must be made within forty-five (45) days of the theft.
 - a. **Note:** 45 days after December 20, 2024 (the last date eligible for Federal replacement) is February 3, 2025, therefore claims must be filed by that date to be eligible for Federal replacement.
Claims submitted on or after February 4, 2025 will only be eligible for State replacement.
- C. The maximum replacement amount may not exceed two (2) times the monthly SNAP allotment issued in the month preceding the fraudulent transaction(s).
- D. Households may only receive a maximum of two (2) replacements in a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY).

Action Required

- A. Customers must:
 - a. Continue to report stolen benefits using the [Stolen Benefits Attestation Form](#) or on the [myMDTHINK Consumer Portal](#).
 - b. Cancel the compromised card by calling the Maryland EBT Customer Service Center at 1-800-977-2222 or online at <http://www.connectebt.com/>.
- B. Staff in all Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) are responsible for providing customer service and guidance through the claim of

stolen benefits process.

- C. Case workers in Allegany and Garrett Counties are responsible for processing claims of stolen benefits following the procedures outlined in [AT 23-09 \(Revised\) Supplemental Information Regarding AT 23-09 Restoration of Stolen Benefits](#) with the exception of the benefits code used to replace the funds, detailed below. The following rules apply for **Replacement Authority** on the Replacement Amount Details screen in the Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) system:

Select
Federal- Post Oct 1st 2022
State
State - Federal SNAP Appeal

- a. For replacements meeting the federal requirements, select **“Federal-Post Oct 1st 2022”** as the Replacement Authority for 100% Federal funding.
 - i. Benefits must have a date of theft on or before December 20, 2024.
 - ii. Claims will be replaced with code 607.
- b. Select **“State”** as the Replacement Authority when the claim is for:
 - i. Stolen Maryland SUN Bucks (regardless of the date of the theft)
 1. Claims will be replaced with code 611, a new code that was created specifically for this program.
 - ii. A benefit **stolen on or before December 20, 2024**, that is not eligible for Federally funded replacement
 1. Claims will be replaced with either code 607 (entirely State funded) or code 608 (50% Federally funded and 50% State funded) depending on whether the household contains a household member under 21 years of age.
 - iii. Any replacement (other than Maryland SUN Bucks) benefits **stolen on or after December 21, 2024**.
 1. Claims will be replaced using code 612.

References

[American Relief Act of 2025, Pub. L. No. 118-158 \(2025\)](#)

[AT 24-31 Supplemental Information Regarding AT 23-09 Restoration of Stolen Benefits](#)

[AT 23-09 \(Revised\) Supplemental Information Regarding AT 23-09 Restoration of Stolen Benefits](#)

[SNAP Manual Section 470 Restoration of Benefits](#)

[E&E How To Guide Process an EBT Fraud Replacement Request V 0.3](#)

Inquiries

Please direct policy questions to FIA Policy by completing the [FIA Policy Information Request Form](#). Montgomery County staff may submit their policy questions via email at fia.policy@maryland.gov.

cc: DHS Executive Staff
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Office of Administrative Hearings