



311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

FIA ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: #23- 03

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Issuance Date: December 30, 2022

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT,
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS, AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF
MDH OES ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION DIVISION STAFF**

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 
DEBBIE RUPPERT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MDH/OES 

**RE: 2023 INCREASE IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM (SNAP) AND LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE,
WAIVER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA) UTILITY ALLOWANCES**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
(SNAP) AND LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE,
WAIVER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)**

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

SUMMARY

The Family Investment Administration (FIA) annually reviews the utility and telephone allowances to determine if they should increase, decrease, or stay the same. The standard and limited utility allowances will increase for calendar year 2023; the amounts are specified below. The telephone allowance will remain the same.

The increase in the utility allowances is attributed to the change in FIA's formula to calculate the utility allowances. The U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics discontinued the Consumer Price Index series that we relied on in the past, which resulted in a change in our calculation formula.

ACTION REQUIRED

Effective January 1, 2023:

- The Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) will **increase** from \$431 to **\$505** (+\$74) per month.

- The Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) will **increase** from \$264 to **\$309** (+\$45) per month.
- The telephone allowance **will remain** \$40.

The new allowances will migrate into the Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) system on January 1, 2023.

SNAP Policy Manual updates:

- SNAP Manual Section 600

INQUIRIES:

Please direct system and procedural inquiries for MA-LTC applications to help.mdthink@maryland.gov.

Please direct MA-LTC policy questions to the Maryland Department of Health, Office of Eligibility Services to MDH_OESinquiries@maryland.gov.

Please direct SNAP policy questions to the Office of Statewide Policy Compliance and Customer Service Performance by completing the [FIA Policy Information Request Form](#) found on Knowledge Base as shown in the screenshot below.

For SNAP systems questions, please contact fia.bsdm@maryland.gov.

cc: DHS Executive
FIA Management Staff
MDH Executive
OES Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHS Help Desk
Office of Administrative Hearings