

Service Chapter: SNAP
Effective Date: Immediately

Overview

Update to policy, allowing one vehicle to be excluded from resources.

Description of Changes

1. **502 – Eligible Aliens – Change**
Update to Ineligible Alien Resources, income and expenses
2. **604 – Vehicles - Change**
Update to exclude one vehicle per household.
3. **801 – Standard, Earned, Dependent Care, Child Support and Representative Payee Fee – Change**
COLA Changes effective 10/1/2026

Policy Section Updates

1. **502 – Eligible Aliens – Change**

Overview

An individual who is not a U.S. citizen or a U.S. National must have their [alien](#) status verified to be included in the [assistance unit](#). The State agency must give the [household](#) the option of withdrawing its [application](#) or participating without a household member if that individual does not wish the State agency to verify his/her immigration status. State agencies cannot deny benefits to otherwise [eligible](#) household members because other members have chosen not to disclose their citizenship, immigration status, or Social Security number.

Household members that “opt out” are considered non-applicants and are [ineligible](#) for SNAP. Alien visitors, tourists, diplomats, and students who enter the U.S. temporarily with no intention of abandoning their residence in a foreign country are not eligible for SNAP benefits under any circumstances.

[Alien Status Verification \(SAVE\)](#)

[Eligible Alien](#)

Manual Letter XXXX
Department of Health and Human Services

[Non-Citizens Eligible to SNAP Immediately](#)

[Qualified Alien Categories](#)

[Special SNAP Criteria](#)

[Ineligible Alien Resources, Income and Expenses](#)

The resources of an ineligible alien will be counted in their entirety to the remaining household members, **with the exception of one vehicle, which is excluded (see policy 604 – Vehicles)**. Income and expenses of the ineligible alien are prorated among the remaining household members. Income and expenses must be coded against the ineligible alien or income and expenses will not be prorated.

Exception: A household is allowed the full appropriate mandatory utility allowance if the individuals who share the utility expense(s) are not in the SNAP assistance unit because they are an ineligible alien, Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) disqualified, or SSN disqualified, but are otherwise required household members. This also applies to households with an ineligible student.

[Reporting Unlawful Presence, Indigent Non-Citizens, and Final Civil Judgments Against Sponsors](#)

2. 604 – Vehicles – Change

Overview

In determining the resources of a [household](#), licensed and unlicensed vehicles shall be included and documented by the State Agency in sufficient detail to permit [verification](#). Some vehicles are specifically excluded.

[Ownership](#)

[Determining Jointly Owned Vehicle Accessibility](#)

[Fair Market Value](#)

[Fair Market Value Versus Equity Value](#)

[SNAP-Excluded Vehicles](#)

Licensed vehicles that meet the following conditions:

1. One vehicle per household is automatically excluded. This generally refers to a vehicle used for necessary transportation, such as travel to and from work, school, or other essential activities. It does not typically include vehicles used primarily for recreation. When assessing countable vehicles, the vehicle with the highest equity value is used.
2. Used for income-producing purposes such as, but not limited to, a taxi, truck, or a vehicle used for deliveries, to call on participants or customers, or required by the terms of employment.

Note: Licensed vehicles that have previously been used by a self-employed household member engaged in farming but are no longer used in farming because the household member has terminated his/her [self-employment](#) from farming must continue to be excluded as a resource for one year from the date the household member terminated his/her self-employment farming.

3. Necessary for long-distance travel, other than daily commuting, that is essential to the employment of a household member including an ineligible [alien](#) or disqualified person whose resources are being considered available to the household.
4. Used as the household's home.
5. Necessary to transport a **physically disabled** household member who meets the definition of "disabled" including an ineligible alien or disqualified individual regardless of the purpose of such transportation. This exclusion is limited to one vehicle per physically disabled household member. The vehicle need not have special equipment or be used primarily by the **physically** disabled household member. The individual must meet the SNAP definition of disabled.
6. Necessary to carry fuel for heating or water for home use when the transported fuel or water is anticipated to be the primary source of fuel or water for the household during the [certification period](#).
7. The value of the vehicle is inaccessible because sale of the vehicle would produce an estimated return of not more than \$1,500.

The above exclusions in this section apply when the vehicle is not in use because of temporary unemployment, such as when a taxi driver is ill and cannot work.

3. 801 – Standard, Earned, Dependent Care, Child Support and Representative Payee Fee – Change

801 Standard, Earned, Dependent Care, Child Support and Representative Payee Fee

Overview

The following deductions are detailed in this manual section:

1. Standard deduction.
2. [Earned income](#) deduction.
3. [Dependent](#) care deduction; and,
4. [Child support](#) deduction.
5. Representative Payee Fee

[Standard Deduction](#)

Standard deduction based on counting [eligible household](#) members in determining household size is as follows:

Standard Deduction Table

Household Size	Standard Deduction Amount
1-3	~~\$209~~ \$217
4	~~\$223~~ \$229
5	~~\$264~~ \$268
6+	~~\$299~~ \$308

[Ineligible](#) or disqualified household members are not used to determine the household size for purposes of the standard deduction.

[Earned Income Deduction](#)

[Loss of Earned Income Deduction](#)

[Dependent Care Deduction](#)

[Child Support Paid Deduction](#)

Budgeting Child Support Expense

Representative Payee Fee

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