

Belit Stockfleth

Authorized Signature

Number: SS-IM-08-041
Issue Date: 12/04/2008

Topic: Food Benefits

Subject: January 1, 2009, COLA and Food Stamps

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> | Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify): |

Message:

It is time for the annual COLA adjustment made January 1.

SFPSS

Effective January 1, 2009, the annual SFPSS COLA will impact all FS cases coded with GNT income. For groups receiving a SFPSS grant, the computer will automatically update the income to the new amount at end of day 12/31/2008.

Social Security

Effective January 1, 2009, the annual adjustment on Social Security benefits (SSB, SSD and SSI) due to the COLA will be made on FS cases using CRS or MRS. FS cases using SRS or TBA will not receive the automatic COLA adjustment.

FS Recertification

Workers must process recertifications effective 12/1/08 in December as follows:

For CRS, MRS or SRS: Use the December SSB/SSD/SSI amount. If in CRS or MRS, the computer will automatically update the income to the new amount at end of day 12/31/08. If in SRS, the December amount will continue until the household reports and verifies a change or until Interim Report.

Workers must process recertifications effective 1/1/09 in December as follows:

For cases using CRS or MRS: Use the December SSB/SSD/SSI amount. The computer will automatically update the income to the new amount at end of day

12/31/08. If the case is recertified using the 1/1/09 income, workers may need to adjust the amount again in January.

For cases using SRS: Use the January 2009 SSB/SSD/SSI amount for the January 1, 2009, recertification.

Some offices adjust the Social Security Benefits for the increase in the Representative Payee fee. These offices may request a list of FS cases with the REP household type if they wish to adjust the cases in CRS. This list will be available in January.

Additional communications will be sent with information on the COLA notices and SPD systems processing (512, pay-in, etc).

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

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