

Mike McCormick

Authorized Signature

Number: SPD-AR-12-011

Issue Date: 3/8/2012

Topic: Food Benefits

Due Date: Upon Receipt

Subject: Senior Farm Direction Nutrition Program

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 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): |

Action Required: Eligibility data for the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP) will be pulled from CMS and FSMIS on April 1, 2012. To be eligible for the program, seniors must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Be 60 years old as of April 1, 2012
- Be receiving Medicaid and/or SNAP benefits on April 1, 2012
- Have income less than \$1,257 for an individual or \$1,703 for a couple and
- Be living in a situation where food is not provided for them.

It is important that income and service eligibility are coded accurately on CMS. Since the data is pulled from CMS and FSMIS, cases that have been updated in ACCESS but not integrated may show as not eligible. Please be sure to have all cases accurately coded in ACCESS and integrated before April 1, 2012. Once the data is pulled, we are not able to backdate eligibility for this program and no additional seniors can be added to the list.

Staff can access a view direct report titled SJU000R-A. This report provides address discrepancies between CMS and SNAP, for seniors who potentially meet the eligibility criteria for the program. Address discrepancies that are unresolved may result in the participation letter being sent to an incorrect address.

Seniors will be mailed their notification letter towards the end of April. The letters will be sent out in a staggered mailing, so seniors in the south and east will have the same opportunity to participate in the program.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will again manage the day-to-day operation of the program this year. SPD will pull the data and send the information to OHA. OHA will be

sending out the notification letters and processing them as they are returned.

Again, this year, the grant funding will not be sufficient to serve all eligible seniors. Seniors who return their signed Response Card by May 18th, and who RSVP'd but did not receive checks last year, will be slated to receive checks this year. To determine the remaining seniors who will receive checks for 2012, OHA will randomly select from the seniors who return their signed Response Card by May 18th, up to this year's service target, which is currently 32,300 seniors. Response Cards turned into local offices must be received by OHA by May 23, 2012 in order to be part of the initial drawing.

Any Response Cards received in local offices should be forwarded to:

Maria Menor
OHA - Farm Direct Nutrition Program
800 NE Oregon St, Suite 865
Portland, OR 97232

OHA will maintain the 1-866-299-3562 number and will send the attached fact sheet to SafeNet in case seniors call them, to answer basic eligibility questions. SafeNet and OHA are unable to access our database and will have no case specific information. If SafeNet is unable to assist a senior, the senior will be referred back to their local case manager/financial worker.

Seniors who receive SFDNP benefits in 2012 will receive \$32 in Farm Direct checks that they can use at authorized farm stands and farmers markets to purchase fresh fruit, vegetables and herbs. Seniors can use the checks between June 1 and October 31, 2012. Any checks that are lost or stolen cannot be replaced.

Nutritional information, eligibility requirements, recipes and healthy aging information can be found on the [SFDNP website](#). The website also has information on farm stand and farmers market locations where seniors can use their farm direct checks.

Reason for Action: Changes in SFDNP program administration for 2012.

Field/Stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by: Policy Group, Program Managers

If you have any questions about this action request, contact:

Contact(s):	Kim La Croix		
Phone:	971-673-0606	Fax:	971-673-0994
E-mail:	Kimberly.w.lacroix@state.or.us		