| Department of Human Resources<br>311 West Saratoga Street<br>Baltimore MD 21201 | **FIA INFORMATION MEMO** |
|---|---|
| **Control Number: # 15-02** | **Effective Date: Immediately**<br>**Issuance Date: September 11, 2014** |

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

**FROM:** **ROSEMARY MALONE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**RE:** **MARYLAND SENIOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MSNAP) ALLOTMENT DECREASE**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED:** **FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE:** **OFFICE OF PROGRAMS**

**SUMMARY:**

The Family Investment Administration (FIA) utilizes the Maryland Senior Nutrition Assistance Program (MSNAP) to simplify the application process once the Social Security Administration (SSA) approves elderly individuals for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. FIA has approval from the Food and Nutrition Service to use this process as a way to improve the delivery of food assistance to qualified customers.

In December 2013 the MSNAP allotment for the Food Supplement Program (FSP) decreased. MSNAP customers with shelter costs at or above $506 received a monthly allotment of $114. Customers with shelter costs below $506 received a monthly allotment of $69.

The current MSNAP benefits are the result of a second reduction of MSNAP benefits effective as of January 1, 2014. Customers with shelter costs at or above $506 now receive an allotment of $110. The new allotment for customers with shelter costs below $506 is $65.

**INQUIRIES:** Please direct policy inquiries to Rick McClendon on 410-767-7307 or rick.mcclendon@maryland.gov. Please direct CARES processing questions to Fern Hill at 410-767-7064 or fern.hill@maryland.gov.

cc: DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk