



Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DATE: February 10, 2026

SUBJECT: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP): Income Eligibility Guidelines for 2026

TO: Regional Directors
Supplemental Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
All TEFAP State Agencies

Under the leadership of Secretary Brooke Rollins, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is committed to providing timely customer service and clarifying program requirements for our State agency partners. In support of these goals, FNS is issuing this memorandum to provide information on 2026 TEFAP Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) for State agencies to determine the eligibility of households to receive USDA Foods for home consumption in TEFAP.

Per [7 CFR 251.5\(b\)](#), each TEFAP State agency must establish uniform statewide criteria for determining eligibility for USDA Foods for home consumption. This eligibility criteria must include maximum income-based standards at or between 185 percent to 300 percent of the U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines (poverty guidelines) published annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). State agencies may propose use of income-based standards above 300 percent of the poverty guidelines with supporting rationale, subject to approval by FNS. [FD-120, Participant Eligibility in TEFAP](#), provides additional information on this process.

Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law, unless expressly authorized by statute or incorporated into a contract. USDA may not cite, use, or rely on any guidance that is not available through their guidance portal, except to establish historical facts.

TEFAP State agencies should update their income standards to reflect the 2026 poverty guidelines upon receipt of this memorandum. For State agency reference, the attached tables contain the poverty guidelines and annual household income limits at 185 percent of the poverty guidelines. To establish annual income limits of 185 percent, the poverty guidelines are multiplied by 1.85, and the results are rounded up to the next whole dollar. From these results, weekly and monthly income limits are calculated. State agencies may use a similar process to determine income limits at their established thresholds. The first table includes the income limits for households residing in the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Separate income limits for Alaska and Hawaii are established and published annually by HHS, reflected in the second and third tables.

State agencies should direct any questions they may have regarding the 2026 TEFAP IEGs to their respective FNS regional offices.

/Original Signature on File

Sara Olson
Director
Policy Division
Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs

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ATTACHMENT**TEFAP INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES - 2026**

48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	185%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$15,960	\$29,526	\$2,461	\$568
2.....	21,640	40,034	3,337	770
3.....	27,320	50,542	4,212	972
4.....	33,000	61,050	5,088	1,175
5.....	38,680	71,558	5,964	1,377
6.....	44,360	82,066	6,839	1,579
7.....	50,040	92,574	7,715	1,781
8.....	55,720	103,082	8,591	1,983
For each add'l household member, add...	\$5,680	\$10,508	\$876	\$203

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ALASKA				
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	185%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$19,950	\$36,908	\$3,076	\$710
2.....	27,050	50,043	4,171	963
3.....	34,150	63,178	5,265	1,215
4.....	41,250	76,313	6,360	1,468
5.....	48,350	89,448	7,454	1,721
6.....	55,450	102,583	8,549	1,973
7.....	62,550	115,718	9,644	2,226
8.....	69,650	128,853	10,738	2,478
For each add'l household member, add...	\$7,100	\$13,135	\$1,095	\$253

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HAWAII				
	Federal Poverty Guidelines - 100%	185%		
Household Size	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1.....	\$18,360	\$33,966	\$2,831	\$654
2.....	24,890	46,047	3,838	886
3.....	31,420	58,127	4,844	1,118
4.....	37,950	70,208	5,851	1,351
5.....	44,480	82,288	6,858	1,583
6.....	51,010	94,369	7,865	1,815
7.....	57,540	106,449	8,871	2,048
8.....	64,070	118,530	9,878	2,280
For each add'l household member, add...	\$6,530	\$12,081	\$1,007	\$233

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