




FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ADMINISTRATION
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Office of Procedures

POLICY BULLETIN #14-82-ELI

CHANGES IN NYSNIP STANDARDIZED BENEFIT LEVELS

<p>Date: July 23, 2014</p>	<p>Subtopic(s): NYSNIP</p>
<p> This procedure can now be accessed on the FIAweb.</p> <p>See PB #14-68-ELI for the SUA eligibility changes.</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform Non Cash Assistance Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NCA SNAP) Center staff of changes in the New York State Nutrition Improvement Project (NYSNIP) standardized benefit levels due to changes in the eligibility to receive a heating/cooling Level I standard utility allowance (SUA). The NYSNIP standardized benefit level changes in the Welfare Management System (WMS) are in effect for new budgets authorized with effective dates of 7/A/14 or later.</p> <p>The SUA eligibility changes eliminated the receipt of an automatic heating/cooling Level I SUA based solely upon reasonable anticipation that a household would receive a Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) benefit within the next twelve months. As a result of this change, new lower standardized benefit levels were created for most NYSNIP households.</p> <p><u>NYSNIP Shelter Type Codes 94 and 95</u></p> <p>The NYSNIP standardized benefit levels for households with Shelter Type Codes 94 (Household Eligible for Full SNAP SUA – High Shelter Cost) and 95 (Household Eligible for Full SNAP SUA – Low Shelter Cost) remain the same.</p> <p><u>NYSNIP Shelter Type Codes 96 and 97</u></p> <p>Households newly assigned NYSNIP Shelter Type Codes 96 (NYSNIP – high shelter costs) and 97 (NYSNIP – low shelter costs) and automated changes with budgets effective 7/A/14 or later will be assigned the new lower NYSNIP standardized benefit level. No mass rebudgeting of existing NYSNIP cases will be done.</p>

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?
Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or
send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center Fax* or fax to: (917) 639-0298

New standardized benefit levels for Shelter Type Code **96**

The new lower standardized benefit levels are as follows:

- Shelter Type Code **96** where the household receives SSI only, the new NYSNIP standardized benefit level is \$25.
- Shelter Type Code **96** where the household receives SSI and other income, the new NYSNIP standardized benefit level is \$16.
- Shelter Type Code **97** where the household receives SSI only or SSI with other income, the new NYSNIP standardized benefit level is \$15.

New standardized benefit level for Shelter Type Code **97**

The NYSNIP standardized benefit levels for households with Shelter Type Codes **96** or **97** that qualify for the heating/cooling Level I SUA, remain unchanged.

For households with Shelter Type Codes **96** or **97** that are assigned the new lower NYSNIP standardized benefit level, Workers must evaluate the household's eligibility to receive a heating/cooling Level I SUA. This occurs upon receipt of the household's SNAP Benefits Interim Report (**LDSS-4836 NYC**), at recertification, and anytime the household submits information that may qualify the household for a heating/cooling Level I SUA.

If the household is determined to qualify for a heating/cooling Level I SUA, the Worker must enter an "X" in the **FSUA:IND** field on the **NSBL02** screen.

NYSNIP Shelter Type Code **98**

Reduced standardized benefit level for Shelter Type Code **98**

The NYSNIP standardized benefit level for households with Shelter Type Code **98** (NYSNIP – SUA eligibility and shelter cost unknown) was also reduced as a result of the SUA changes as follows:

- Shelter Type Code **98** where the household receives SSI only, the NYSNIP standardized benefit level has been reduced from \$69 to \$15.
- Shelter Type Code **98** where the household receives SSI and other income, the NYSNIP standardized benefit level has been reduced from \$65 to \$15.

For NYSNIP households with Shelter Type Code **98**, the Shelter Type Code must be changed if the household verifies at any time that it incurs a shelter expense or qualifies for a heating/cooling Level I SUA. The Shelter Type Code must be reviewed upon receipt of the household's SNAP Benefits Interim Report (**LDSS-4836 NYC**) and at recertification to see if the household qualifies for one of the other NYSNIP Shelter Types **94, 95, 96, or 97**.

The NYSNIP benefit levels are listed on the Guide to SNAP Budgeting (**W-204G**).

The new NYSNIP benefit levels are as follows:

	<u>SSI only</u>	<u>SSI and other income</u>
Shelter Type Code 94	\$189	\$189
Shelter Type Code 95	\$189	\$183
Shelter Type Code 96	\$189	\$189
Shelter Type Code 96 (No SUA)	\$ 25	\$ 16
Shelter Type Code 97	\$189	\$183
Shelter Type Code 97 (No SUA)	\$ 15	\$ 15
Shelter Type Code 98	\$ 15	\$ 15

Effective Immediately

References:

ABEL Transmittal 14-2
GIS 14 TA/DC023

Related Items

PB #14-68-ELI Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) Changes
PB #14-81-OPE Revisions to the Guide to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Budgeting (**W-204G**)