



# Rhode Island Department of Human Services

## SNAP Annual Cost of Living Adjustment

### Effective October 1, 2023

### What is the SNAP COLA?

At the beginning of every federal fiscal year, the United States Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service (USDA FNS) adjusts maximum Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, deductions and income eligibility standards. These adjustments are known as the “SNAP Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).” The SNAP COLA is based on changes in the cost of living and takes effect on October 1st of each year. The following elements of the COLA will change effective October 1, 2023.

### Income Eligibility Standard Changes

The federal poverty level increased, resulting in an increase to the income eligibility standards. Below is a comparison of last year’s and this year’s gross income limits. SNAP has two income levels: one for households *without* an older adult (someone age 60 or older) or someone with a disability (185%), and one for households *with* an older adult or someone with a disability (200%).

	October 2022- September 2023	<b>*NEW*</b> October 2023- September 2024	October 2022- September 2023	<b>*NEW*</b> October 2023- September 2024
Household size	Maximum monthly gross income ( <b>185%</b> ) (Households <b>without</b> an older adult or someone with a disability)*		Maximum monthly gross income ( <b>200%</b> ) (Households <b>with</b> an older adult or someone with a disability)*	
1	\$2,096	\$2,248	\$2,266	\$2,430
2	\$2,823	\$3,041	\$3,052	\$3,288
3	\$3,552	\$3,833	\$3,840	\$4,144
4	\$4,279	\$4,625	\$4,626	\$5,000
5	\$5,006	\$5,419	\$5,412	\$5,858
6	\$5,735	\$6,210	\$6,200	\$6,714
Additional	Approx. \$729	Approx. \$794	Approx. \$786	Approx. \$858

\*Households with a member who is elderly or disabled may have higher gross incomes as long as they meet the net.

### Deduction Changes

Deductions are used to establish a net income. The net income is used as a measure of eligibility as well as the basis of benefit calculation. Households may experience an increase in benefits as a result of the changes below.

**Standard Deduction:** A flat amount deducted from everyone’s income by household size. The standard deduction has increased.

Household Size	October 2021-September 2022	*NEW* October 2022-September 2023
1-3	\$193	\$198
4	\$193	\$208
5	\$225	\$244
6+	\$258	\$279

**Standard Utility Allowance:** A flat amount entered into the excess shelter deduction calculation for any household paying a heating or cooling bill or who receives a LIHEAP grant. The standard utility allowance (SUA) has decreased **from \$800 to \$789**.

**Maximum Shelter Deduction:** the maximum shelter deduction available to a household where no one is elderly or disabled. The maximum shelter deduction has increased **from \$624 to \$672**.

**Homeless Shelter Deduction:** The homeless shelter deduction, for homeless households that have some shelter expenses, has increased **from \$166.81 to \$179.66**.

**Standard Medical Deduction:** Older adults (age 60 and over) and/or disabled individuals in a SNAP household who have allowable, unreimbursed medical expenses greater than \$35 per month combined for all qualifying household members, but no more than \$218 per month, are entitled to a Standard Medical Deduction of \$183.

## Minimum and Maximum Benefit Amounts

Current Minimum Benefit	\$23
New Minimum Benefit	\$23 (remains the same)

Household Size	Current Maximum Benefit (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)	*New* Maximum Benefit October 2023 – September 2024
1	\$281	\$291
2	\$516	\$535
3	\$740	\$766
4	\$939	\$973
5	\$1,116	\$1,155
6	\$1,339	\$1,386
7	\$1,480	\$1,532
8	\$1,691	\$1,751
Each additional person	\$211	\$219

### Have More Questions?

Visit our website: [www.dhs.ri.gov](http://www.dhs.ri.gov)

Call: 1-855-MY-RIDHS (1-855-697-4347) M – F, except holidays, from 8:30AM-3:00PM Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Customer Service: 1-888-979-9939