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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 90 INF-47

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services

DIVISION: Income
 Maintenance

DATE: September 13, 1990

SUBJECT: Food Stamp Notice for October 1, 1990 Food Stamp
 Changes

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Food Stamp Staff
 Public Assistance Staff
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: County Food Stamp Representative at 1-800-342-3715,
 extension 4-9225

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment - Notice to Increase Food Stamp Benefits
 (not available on-line)

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
		18 NYCRR		FSSB	GIS
		358-3.3		VI-B-6-all	90 IM/DC025
		387.15		VII-B-6- all	90 LCM-114
				VIII-C-2.1- 2.2	
				VIII-C-6.2	

In GIS message 90 IM/DC025 dated 8/10/90, you were advised of the food stamp changes effective October 1, 1990. This letter is to inform you that this Department will be issuing general notices to recipients regarding these changes.

Attached is a copy of the "Notice of Intent to Increase Food Stamp Benefits". This notice is to advise current food stamp recipients of the effect of the October 1, 1990 changes in USDA standards on food stamp benefits. These changes will affect the Thrifty Food Plan allotment amounts, maximum gross and net income eligibility levels, the Standard Deduction, and the Maximum Excess Shelter Deduction. These changes will be incorporated into the next revision of the Food Stamp Source Book.

In 1989, the State provided local districts with a model letter to be reproduced and mailed. This year, as part of the WMS Mass Rebudgeting, this Department will send the "Notice of Intent to Increase Food Stamp Benefits" to all cases in the Mass Rebudgeting except for certain exceptions and those cases for which the rebudgeting resulted in no change in benefits.

Please note the time frames specified in the Notice for the effective dates of the action and for requesting an agency conference or a fair hearing.

Since this is a general notice resulting from a mass change, only one copy will be provided to the recipient. A copy is not required for the case record. Also, since this notice explains the basis for the budget computation, individual budgets and narratives will not accompany the notice.

The "flash letter" general notice will include district return addresses and phone numbers as listed in 90 LCM-114 or as provided by your agency in response to that LCM.

Local districts continue to be responsible for sending individual notices, accompanied by budgets and budget narratives, in the following circumstances:

1. The FS determination is pending at the time the general notice is sent. (PA/FS code is 05.)
2. The case is in separate determination status.
3. The case has undergone Full Data Entry (FDE) but is in pending application status.
4. The October increase is combined with another action. If the actions have a negative effect on the food stamp benefit, a timely notice is required.

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It is anticipated that these notices will be mailed by the end of September.

Any general notices which are undeliverable will be returned to this Department and will be forwarded to the local district. The local district must then take the appropriate action based on the individual circumstances.

This notice and these procedures apply to all districts including New York City.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance