



TO: Regional Directors, County Department of Family and Children Services, OFI Field Operations Staff and OFI State Office Staff

FROM: Tom C. Rawlings
Division Director

DATE: **August 27, 2020**

RE: Food Stamp Program Manual Transmittal 61

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide policy updates, clarifications and revisions to the Food Stamp Program's Intentional Program Violations, Identity, Residency, Work Registration, ABAWD, Income, and Excess Medical sections of the manual. The language was updated for the Intentional Program Violations section surrounding handling and imposing disqualifications. The Identity and Residency sections have been updated to accept Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Interface as verification of identity and Georgia residency. The Income section updated to change the TANF Work Support payment to \$200 per month. Excess Medical updated with the new Standard Medical Deduction of \$136. Work Registration updated with expanded definitions of Chronically Homeless and student. ABAWD section updated with the approved Waiver language.

This transmittal also includes adding the Appendix D Case Record Maintenance and Document Management section back to the manual. This section was previously removed from the manual and is being added back to the manual with updated policy regarding record retention and maintenance.

The policy revisions include:

- Section 3315 – Intentional Program Violations - This section is updated to reflect OIG is now handling imposing the disqualifications and these steps have been removed from the manual regarding informing the county.
- Section 3335 – Identity – This section is updated to add Identity can also be verified by the GA Department of Driver Services (DDS) Interface.

- Section 3340 – Residency – This section is updated to add GA Residency can also be verified by the GA Department of Driver Services (DDS) Interface.
- Section 3350 – Work Registration – This section is updated to expand the definition for “chronically homeless” individuals and students. The caretaker exemption definition has been corrected and the SNAP Works Program has been defined.
- Section 3355 – ABAWDS – This section is updated to move the time clock period to the requirements section. Identified documentation of work status must use minimum necessary to safeguard PHI. Updated ABAWD Waiver language to current regulatory language. Updated ABAWD discretionary exemptions language to current regulatory language. Language updated to reflect ABAWD changes from November to March 2020, April to June 2020 and July 2020 to June 2021.
- Section 3420 – Income – This section is updated to change the TANF Work Support Payment to \$200 per month.
- Section 3614 – Excess Medical – This section is updated to change the Standard Medical Deduction to \$136 and updated the Medical Deduction examples in the manual.
- Appendix D – Case Record Maintenance and Document Management – This section is being added back to the manual with updated policy regarding record retention and maintenance.

This manual transmittal is effective September 1, 2020.