

# Policy Transmittal Office of Self-Sufficiency Programs



Heather Miles, SSP Program Design Manager

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**Number:** SS-PT-20-015

**Issue date:** 6/26/2020

**Topic:** Food Benefits

**Due date:**

**Transmitting (check the box that best applies):**

- New policy   
  Policy change   
  Policy clarification   
  Executive letter  
 Administrative Rule   
  Manual update   
  Other:

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                             | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: Type B     | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs          | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): 5503              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs                        |   |

<b>Policy/rule title:</b>	SNAP COVID-19 waivers ending 06/30/2020		
<b>Policy/rule number(s):</b>	461-115-0450; 461-115-0230	<b>Release number:</b>	
<b>Effective date:</b>	07/01/2020	<b>Expiration date:</b>	
<b>References:</b>			
<b>Web address:</b>			

**Discussion/interpretation:**

The safety and well-being of staff and Oregonians is a primary concern. The changes outlined in this transmittal do not impact teleworking practices.

- Continue to conduct business with physical distancing measures in mind.
- Encourage electronic, phone, mail, fax and drop off options wherever possible.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Oregon began implementing certain waivers earlier this year. Oregon's SNAP federal waivers for the three flexibilities listed below will end June 30, 2020:

1. Extending certifications
2. Suspending Interim Change Reports and Mid Certification Reviews, and
3. Waiving interview requirements for SNAP

### **Implementation/transition instructions:**

The safety and well-being of staff and Oregonians is a primary concern. The changes outlined in this transmittal do not impact teleworking practices.

- Continue to conduct business with physical distancing measures in mind.
- Encourage electronic, phone, mail, fax and drop off options wherever possible.

#### **1) Extending certifications**

Beginning July 1, 2020 follow pre-COVID recertification processes and requirements. The [DHS 6608](#) – recertification mailing was resumed in June. We do not anticipate any further extensions to be allowed.

#### **2) Suspending [Interim Change Reports \(DHS 852\)](#) and Mid Certification Reviews**

**[Interim Change Reports \(DHS 852\)](#):** Beginning July 1, 2020 follow pre-COVID interim change report processes and requirements. The [DHS 852](#) mailing was resumed in June.

***Mid Certification Reviews:*** Beginning July 1, 2020 follow pre-COVID interim change report processes and requirements. The FSNOTMR mid-certification contact notice was resumed in June.

#### **3) Waiving Interview Requirements**

Beginning July 1, 2020 follow pre-COVID SNAP interview processes and requirements.

*Note:* this waiver allowed us to determine eligibility without an interview. The waiver we received that allows phone interviews remains. This means interviews can continue to be held over the phone.

**Please note that any SNAP applications with a filing date prior to July 1, 2020 still fall under the existing waiver and do not require an interview.**

**Does this change impact the Emergency Allotments waiver?**

No. Oregon was approved for Emergency Allotments in July 2020. For more information, please see [SS-IM-20-006](#).

**Does this change impact SNAP time limits?**

No. SNAP time limits continue to be suspended. Please continue to follow the guidance in [SS-AR-20-007](#).

**Training/communication plan:**

The Department will be providing a press release and outreach to community stakeholders in order to ensure this information is shared with the public.

**Local/branch action required:** Resume pre-COVID processes on July 1, 2020.

**Central office action required:**

**Field/stakeholder review:**  Yes  No

**If yes, reviewed by:**

**Filing instructions:**

*If you have any questions about this policy, contact:*

Contact(s): SNAP Policy	
Phone:	Fax:
Email: <a href="mailto:SNAP.Policy@dhsosha.state.or.us">SNAP.Policy@dhsosha.state.or.us</a>	