

If You Don't Provide Required Verification

If you return your semi-annual report but don't supply verification* of your current earned income your food stamp case will close. If you don't supply other verification as requested, your food stamp case may close or your food stamp benefits may be reduced.

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* See the "Definitions" section of this pamphlet for more information about verification.

Discrimination Complaints

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, political beliefs, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination write:

USDA
Director, Office of Civil Rights
Room 326-W, Whitten Building
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
Telephone: (800) 537-7697 (voice and TDD)

You may also write:

Arkansas Department of Health & Human Services
Office of Employee Relations/Equal Opportunity
Donaghey Plaza North, Suite 205
P.O. Box 1437, Slot N250
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437
Telephone: (501) 682-6003
FAX: (501) 682-8926
TDD: (501) 682-7958

For information or to make complaints other than discrimination complaints, call toll free (800) 482-8988. In Pulaski County, call (501) 682-8233. For TDD service, call (501) 682-8820.

HEARINGS

You have the right to a hearing if you are not happy with any action we take. To ask for a hearing, call or go into the DHHS County Office or send a letter to:

Arkansas Department of Health & Human Services
ATTN: Appeals and Hearings
P.O. Box 1437, Slot N401
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

Telephone - (501) 682-8622
Hearing Impaired TDD - (501) 682-6974



**Arkansas Department of
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING

You have been approved to receive food stamp benefits for one year. During that year a semi-annual report will be mailed to you. You must complete the semi-annual report and return it to the DHHS county office. If you do not complete and return the semi-annual report, your case will close.

This pamphlet explains how to complete and return these report forms. It also explains the information you must send with the form to verify your current situation.



If you have questions, please contact the DHHS county office.

DHHS County Office Stamp

IF YOU NEED THIS INFORMATION IN A DIFFERENT FORMAT SUCH AS LARGE PRINT, PLEASE CONTACT THE DHHS COUNTY OFFICE. Si necesita este formulario en Español, llame al 1-800-482-8988 y pida la versión en Español.

Changes To Report Right Away

You must report when your household's* total gross monthly income increases to more than the Food Stamp Program gross income monthly limits for your household size. (*Gross income is what you receive before any deductions for taxes, insurance, etc.*) We will tell you on your approval notice what the gross monthly income limit is for your household size. This change must be reported within 10 days of the end of the month when your total gross monthly income first increased to more than our Program limits.

If you live in certain counties, you must also report when certain household members begin working less than 20 hours per week. If you have this reporting requirement, your worker will tell you who these household members are.

* See the "Definitions" section of this pamphlet for more information about a household.

How to Report Changes

We will give you a *Change Report Form* and "*CHANGE REPORT ADDENDUM*" that tells you:

- 1) What the gross monthly income limit is for your household size; and
- 2) If you must report when a household member begins working less than 20 hours each week.

Anyone in your household who gets Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) or Medicaid must continue to report changes to their TEA/Medicaid worker. We will let you know if the reported change will make a difference in your food stamp benefit amount.

You may get more food stamp benefits if you report certain changes. You don't have to wait until you get your semi-annual report to report these changes. For example, you may wish to report when:

- Your income decreased because someone lost their job, a check stopped coming or someone's work hours were cut, etc.
- Someone moved into your home or someone who has income moved out of your home.

You can use a *Change Report Form* to report changes. Or, you can write a letter, call or go into the DHHS County Office.

Due Dates

Your report month is the sixth month of your certification period. Your semi-annual report is due on the fifth day of your report month.* If we get a complete report on or before the due date*, we will complete your report before the end of your report month. We will send a notice if your benefits change.

If you return your semi-annual report before the end of your report month, we will process it. If you are still eligible, you will not miss any food stamp benefits. However, we cannot guarantee we will finish your form before the end of the report month. ***(This means you might not be able to use your food stamp EBT card at the normal time the next month. You might have to wait for the benefits to become available.)***

* See the "Definitions" section of this pamphlet for more information about report months and due dates.

Definitions

Due Date - The date by which you should return your semi-annual report to the DHHS county office. Or, if the county office worker asks you for information, the date by which you must return the information to the worker.

Household - A group of people who live together and buy and prepare their food together.

Report Month - The month during which you must return your semi-annual report to the DHHS County Office. (This will be the sixth month of your twelve-month certification period.)

Verification - Information you send or take to the DHHS County Office to prove your statements.

If You Do Not Return Your Report Form

If you do not return your semi-annual report before the end of the report month, your food stamp case will close. You will have to re-apply to continue participating in the Food Stamp Program.