



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

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SNAP STAGGERED ISSUANCE TO START ON JUNE 1, 2016

The Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services would like to announce that recipients of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will begin to receive their benefits on a staggered issuance schedule effective June 1, 2016.

The staggered issuance schedule on SNAP benefits is being encouraged by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to enable retailers to stock healthy and nutritious foods at competitive prices on a more consistent basis, which supports the ability of SNAP participants to make healthy food choices. Maximizing staggered issuance of benefits contributes to a more positive shopping experience for SNAP participants and helps authorized stores manage store operations, inventory and staffing schedules. Issuing SNAP benefits on a single day or over a limited number of days, instead of staggering issuance over the course of the month, puts an unnecessary strain on SNAP clients and on participating retailers by causing surges in customer traffic at SNAP authorized stores.

Beginning June 1, 2016, the SNAP benefit issuance will be staggered based on the last digit of the head of household's Social Security Number (SSN). In this new process, benefits will be available 1st to the 10th of every month as follows:

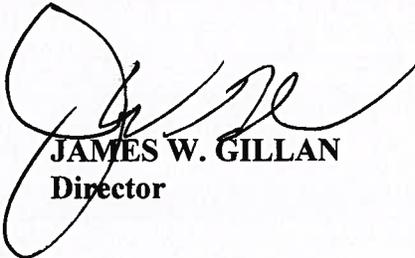
Thus, if the client's SSN:

- ends in 1 = benefits will be available on the 1st day of the month
- ends in 2 = benefits will be available on the 2nd day of the month
- ends in 3 = benefits will be available on the 3rd day of the month
- ends in 4 = benefits will be available on the 4th day of the month
- ends in 5 = benefits will be available on the 5th day of the month
- ends in 6 = benefits will be available on the 6th day of the month
- ends in 7 = benefits will be available on the 7th day of the month
- ends in 8 = benefits will be available on the 8th day of the month
- ends in 9 = benefits will be available on the 9th day of the month
- ends in 0 = benefits will be available on the 10th day of the month.

To lessen the impact of the above change, we are recommending that recipients make plans accordingly. Some SNAP recipients will initially experience a slight delay in receiving their

benefits. It is recommended that recipients save some of their benefits in April and May 2016 to prepare for the delay in the issuance of their benefits in June 2016.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please call Ms. Annie VT. Gozum-Soto, Program Administrator of the Bureau of Economic Security at 735-7257 or email at annie.soto@dphss.guam.gov.



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