

October 14, 2011

Program(s) Affected: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Title of Rule: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Quality Control Error Tolerance Threshold

Stage of Rulemaking: Expected publication week of Oct 31.

Is the Rule Currently Open for Public Comment? 30 day comment period once published.

Rule Summary:

The Department is amending a SNAP regulation at §275.12(f)(2) to increase the QC error tolerance threshold (the threshold) from \$25.00 to \$50.00. When conducting both State and Federal QC reviews any overissuances or underissuances currently found in the amount of \$25.00 or less are not included as an error in the calculation of that fiscal year's (FY) error rates, however States are still required to follow §275.16(c) regarding corrective action for all errors found in QC cases.

The Department will also require all QC error amounts found during a review to be coded and reported by the State agencies on FNS 380-1, OMB 0584-0299, Review Schedule for SNAP QC Reviews, or as directed by FNS. Currently, State Agencies do not have to code and report QC errors for cases with overissuances or underissuances of \$25.00 or below since they are not counted as QC errors when FNS calculates the National QC Error Rates at the end of each review year. However, the Department has determined that it would be valuable to know this information for all variances under \$50.00, even though such variances are not included in the calculation. The information will be used to assist in corrective action.

Once published, this rule will go into effect as of the 2012 QC Review year, which began on October 1, 2011, however due to the nature that QC does not begin to review new fiscal year cases until two to three months into the new review year, State agencies will have plenty of time to implement this regulation once it is published.