

SNAP CERTIFICATION MANUAL – SECTION 6000

6500 Medical Deduction

6520 Medical Standard or Actual Expenses

016.20

6520 Medical Standard or Actual Expenses

SNAP Manual 19/01/11XX/XX/XX

Households with qualifying allowable medical expenses may claim the \$138.00 medical standard deduction or elect to deduction actual medical expenses. The medical standard is a predetermined deduction that an eligible household containing aged/disabled members may elect to use in the SNAP budget to calculate total medical costs. Eligible households may also elect to verify and use actual medical expenses when medical expenses exceed the medical standard.

Standard Medical Deduction

An eligible elderly and/or disabled aged/disabled household with medical expenses of at least \$35.01 has the option to verify and claim all their medical expenses or claim the standard medical deduction.

1. The standard medical deduction is not mandatory and should be offered as a beneficial option to a qualifying households;
2. To be eligible for the standard medical deduction of \$103.00 (\$138.00 - \$35.00 = \$103.00), the following stipulations must be met at initial and subsequent case actions:
 - ClientsHouseholds must verify, at each initial application, that they have incurred more than \$35.00 (i.e. \$35.01) a month in qualifying medical expenses.
 - ClientsHouseholds must declare at each re-certification and subsequent case action that they still have medical expenses in excess of \$35.00. Declaration is a verbal statement, written statement, or appropriate response to a question supplied on a form. No further verification is required.
3. Enter MEmedical expenses totaling of \$138.00 in ANSWER as ANSWER is programmed and the system will automatically to deduct the \$35.00 benchmark.

NOTE: When actual medical costs exceed the standard, the worker may recommend that a clientthe household use actual costs for the medical deduction, but should be mindful of the verification requirements. The household should be informed of the requirement to verify medical expenses if actual expenses are used.

Actual Medical Deduction

For these households choosing actual medical expenses, the county officecase worker and the household must work together should obtain the best estimate from the household at

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6521 Factor One: How Often is the Expense Incurred?

016.20

certification and subsequent case actions to anticipate current medical expenses based on the best information available. The household is under no obligation to report changes in medical expenses but is allowed to do so. The worker will act on any reported changes in medical expenses.

The worker must consider several factors when anticipating current medical expenses:

1. How often is the expense incurred? - See SNAP 6521-6521.3.
2. Will the expense be reimbursed? - See SNAP 6522.
3. Is the expense past due? - See SNAP 6523.

NOTE: See SNAP 11640 for special instructions on handling cases certified for longer than 12 months.

The county office worker and the household must work together at certification, recertification and mid-point review to anticipate current medical expenses based on the best information available. The household is under no obligation to report changes in medical expenses but is allowed to do so. The worker will act on any reported changes in medical expenses.

The worker must consider several factors when anticipating current medical expenses:

1. How often is the expense incurred? - See SNAP 6521-6521.3.
2. Will the expense be reimbursed? - See SNAP 6522.
3. Is the expense past due? - See SNAP 6523.

NOTE: See SNAP 11640 for special instructions on handling cases certified for longer than 12 months.

6521 Factor One: How Often is the Expense Incurred?

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6521.1 Expenses Incurred Each Month

Monthly rental payments on medical equipment, visits to a physician made at least once per month, and Medicare premiums are all types of monthly medical expenses. (Any medical expense the household expects to incur at least once per month is classified as a monthly medical expense.)

EXAMPLE: Mrs. Casey, age 61, declares the following medical expenses:

1. A prescription drug filled twice per month at \$22.40 per bottle.