

Rule-Making Fact Sheet

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:

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CHAPTER NUMBER AND RULE TITLE:

10-144 C.M.R. Chapter 609; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) Rules; Section 8

SNAP E&T Rule #7 – Mileage Reimbursement and Gift Card Policy Update

TYPE OF RULE (*check one*): Routine Technical Major Substantive

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 22 M.R.S. § 42(1) and (8)

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

COMMENT DEADLINE: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. ET.

Written public comments may be submitted via the link at

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking>.

PRINCIPAL REASON(S) OR PURPOSE FOR PROPOSING THIS RULE: The proposed rule would update Section 8(I) Support Service Limits – Mileage Reimbursement to be consistent with the rate afforded to those covered under the Maine Service Employees Association (MSEA) contract. The proposed rule change would refer readers to the State of Maine rate found on the DHHS, Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of State Controller at <https://www.maine.gov/osc/travel/mileage-other-info>. In addition, the proposed rule would add DHHS, Divisions of Contract Management and Audit requirements for distribution of gift cards when E&T Participant Reimbursements are issued.

The proposed rule change would be effective retroactive to January 1, 2024. Retroactive rulemaking is permissible under 22 M.R.S. § 42(8) as this update provides a benefit to SNAP E&T recipients or beneficiaries and does not adversely impact applicants, participants, beneficiaries, or providers.

IS MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THE RULE? No.

ANALYSIS AND EXPECTED OPERATION OF THE RULE: The proposed rule change aligns Support Service Limits – Mileage Reimbursement with the MSEA rate.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF RELEVANT INFORMATION CONSIDERED DURING

DEVELOPMENT OF THE RULE: The Department considered the recent update to MSEA mileage reimbursement rate for the development of this rule. The Department also considered recent DHHS Divisions of Contract Management and Audit guidance related to Gift Card Distribution.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT OF THE RULE: The transportation reimbursement is limited to \$50 per week, unless otherwise approved by the Department. The proposed rule change will have no financial impact on the amount of SNAP benefits issued.

***FOR EXISTING RULES WITH FISCAL IMPACT OF \$1 MILLION OR MORE, ALSO
INCLUDE:***

ECONOMIC IMPACT, WHETHER OR NOT QUANTIFIABLE IN MONETARY TERMS:

INDIVIDUALS, MAJOR INTEREST GROUPS AND TYPES OF BUSINESSES AFFECTED AND
HOW THEY WILL BE AFFECTED:

BENEFITS OF THE RULE:

Note: If necessary, additional pages may be used.