



Stop Cuts to CalFresh Benefits Set for November

Advocates are asking Congress to stop \$457 million cuts to federal food assistance for low-income Californians set for November 1, 2013, a date that we are calling the “Hunger Cliff.” SNAP benefits are already meager, and this cut will only reduce the amount of money low-income families have to put food on the table. SNAP benefit levels will drop from its current average of about \$1.50 per person per meal to less than \$1.40 per person per meal. Sign up to ask members of Congress to strengthen and protect SNAP by passing [House Resolution \(H.R.\) 3108](#) or passing a continuing resolution that prevents these cuts. Go to www.hungercliff.org today!

CalFresh benefits set to **decrease** on November 1, 2013.

In 2009, Federal lawmakers set the CalFresh benefit level at an amount believed to best respond to hunger and economic recession. The law they passed to set these levels, the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) will end on November 1, 2013. Unless Congress acts to increase the benefit level to the level set in 2009 or sets the benefits to the Low-Cost Food Plan level, the benefit level for most people who get CalFresh will go down as of November 1st.

If Congress fails to stop them, the following cuts will be made to CalFresh benefits on November 1st.

- Families receiving the minimum benefit of \$16 will receive \$15.
- Households benefits will go down according to this chart:

CalFresh Monthly Benefit Cut - November 1, 2013			
Household Size	Maximum CalFresh Benefit Now	Maximum CalFresh Benefit After Cut	Amount Cut for Each Family
1	\$200	\$189	\$11
2	\$367	\$347	\$20
3	\$526	\$497	\$29
4	\$668	\$632	\$36
5	\$793	\$750	\$43
6	\$952	\$900	\$52
7	\$1,052	\$995	\$57
8	\$1,202	\$1,137	\$65
Each additional member	+\$150	+\$142	-\$8.00

Is there anything that can be done to prevent the cuts in CalFresh?

If Congress does not act to prevent these cuts, most families will have less in food stamps and experience hunger more often. However, CalFresh recipients should check their benefits and make sure that they have submitted verification for any of these deductions for which they might be eligible:

- **Housing Expenses:** This includes your rent, mortgage payment and insurance that you pay or owe.
- **Dependent Care Expenses:** This includes the cost for the care, and transportation to care, for a child or other dependent which is necessary for you to work or attend job-training.
- **Medical Care Expenses:** This includes costs of health care, dental care, eye care, health care related transportation, and prescriptions for any elderly or disabled household member.

For more information about Western Center’s SNAP policy priorities, contact:

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