

guidelines.⁶ For Alaska, the limit is 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for Alaska.⁷ The gross income limit for a two-person household in Alaska, set in October 2022 and applicable through September 30, 2023, is \$2480 per month.⁸

Based on working 40 hours per week at \$15 dollars per hour and a standard average of 4.3 weeks per month, D. Q. has a gross monthly income of \$2580 per month.⁹ D. Q. did not dispute that this is her income, only that her income is insufficient without the assistance of SNAP benefits. Unfortunately, federal law sets a strict gross income limit. As of January 2023, when D. Q. started her new job, her gross monthly income of \$2580 exceeded the monthly limit of \$2480. Accordingly, DPA correctly determined she was no longer eligible for SNAP benefits.

The gross income limit, however, changes every October 1. Earlier this year, the federal government increased the poverty guidelines for Alaska.¹⁰ That increase should be reflected in the SNAP income limits as of October 1. Based on the new poverty guidelines and D. Q.'s current income, it looks quite likely she will be under the gross income limit come October. D. Q. is thus strongly encouraged to revisit her SNAP eligibility as of October 1, 2023.

IV. Conclusion

Because D. Q.'s gross income exceeds the current limit for SNAP eligibility, DPA correctly determined that she was no longer eligible for SNAP benefits. DPA's decision is affirmed.

DATED: July 12, 2023.

Signed

Rebecca Kruse

Administrative Law Judge

⁶ 7 C.F.R. 273.9(a)(3).

⁷ 7 C.F.R. 273.9(a)(1)(1)(ii).

⁸ Ex. 6; <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/FY23-Income-Eligibility-Standards.pdf>.

⁹ Ex. 3.

¹⁰ 88 FR 3424 (available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/19/2023-00885/annual-update-of-the-hhs-poverty-guidelines>).

Adoption

The undersigned, by delegation from the Commissioner of Health, adopts this Decision, under the authority of AS 44.64.060(e)(1), as the final administrative determination in this matter.

Judicial review of this decision may be obtained by filing an appeal in the Alaska Superior Court in accordance with Alaska R. App. P. 602(a)(2) within 30 days after the date of this decision.

DATED this 26th day of July, 2023.

By: *Signed* _____
Rebecca Kruse
Administrative Law Judge

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