

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



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Name of Department _____

Agency or Division Name _____

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

Contact Person _____

Contact E-mail _____

Contact Phone _____

Name of Rule _____

Newspaper Name _____

Date of Publishing _____

Final Date for Public Comment _____

Location and Time of Public Meeting _____

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of County Operations of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-76-201, and 25-10-129.


Effective April 1, 2021:

The Director of the Division of County Operations (DCO) revises the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Certification Manual sections covering expedited cases. The revisions align current SNAP policy with federal SNAP regulations and ease undue hardships on clients. The changes remove examples and business processes and clarify and standardize language. Also, households granted expedited service will receive the most appropriate certification period if all eligibility requirements are met at the initial interview. Those with verification postponed at the initial interview will be certified for one or two months depending on their application date. Postponed verification must be returned by the end of the certification period or within thirty days of the end of the certification period to be recertified. The rule requires all reasonable efforts be made to verify all eligibility requirements during the expedited review. Also, if verification was previously postponed and not returned, a household must return the verification before receiving expedited services again. However, if it has been twelve months or more since the household last received expedited services the household may receive expedited services.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at <https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed-rules/>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than **November 8, 2021**. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. **4502044082**



Mary Franklin, Director
Division of County Operations