RECENT CHANGES TO SNAP BENEFIT AMOUNTS

Beginning in March 2020, USDA approved states to provide SNAP households with extra pandemic-related SNAP benefits known as <u>emergency</u> <u>allotments</u> (EA). Since then, a variety of state and federal changes have impacted SNAP benefit amounts as shown in the timeline below.

- By law, EA benefits will end for all states by March 2023. However, 18 states already ended EA. States and territories are listed below by the final month that benefits included EA.
- The 2021 Thrifty Food Plan re-evaluation and annual SNAP cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) bolstered SNAP benefits to support a nutritious diet reflective of today's food costs.
- Approximately half of SNAP households also receive Social Security and/or Supplemental Security Income benefits. Therefore, the Social Security Administration (SSA) annual COLA resulted in higher income for many SNAP households, which may have lowered their SNAP benefits.

