



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

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GENERAL LETTER NO. 7-D-44

ISSUED BY: Bureau of Financial, Health and Work Supports
Division of Adult, Children and Family Services

SUBJECT: Employees' Manual, Title 7, Chapter D, **RESOURCES**, Title page, revised; and pages 1 and 25, revised.

Summary

Chapter 7-D is revised to:

- ◆ Update the resource limit for households with one or more eligible members who are disabled or aged 60 or older. The limit is increasing from \$3,000 to \$3,250. NOTE: The \$2,000 resource limit for all other households does not change.
- ◆ Update the program name.

Effective Date

October 1, 2011

Material Superseded

This material replaces the following pages from Employees' Manual, Title 7, Chapter D:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Date</u>
Title page	May 30, 2000
1	August 12, 2011
25	May 30, 2000

Additional Information

Refer questions about this general letter to your area income maintenance administrator.

Revised September 30, 2011

Employees' Manual
Title 7
Chapter D

FOOD ASSISTANCE RESOURCES



Iowa Department
of Human Services

OVERVIEW

This chapter describes how resources are used when determining eligibility. The first sections explain resources limits and countable resources, including whose resources to consider, what resources to consider, and how to handle jointly owned resources.

The next section is an alphabetical listing of excluded resources, followed by a section on how to treat vehicles. The penalties for deliberately transferring resources in order to qualify for Food Assistance are in the last section of the chapter.

RESOURCE LIMITS

Legal reference: 7 CFR 273.8(b) and (c), 441 IAC 65.30(2)

Except for categorically eligible households, households are not eligible for Food Assistance if all countable resources total more than:

- ◆ \$3,250 for all households with one or more eligible members who are disabled or aged 60 or older. (If the only member disabled or aged 60 or older is a disqualified member, the limit is \$2,000.) See 7-A, [Disabled Member](#).
- ◆ \$2,000 for all other households.

Resource limits do not apply to categorically eligible households. See 7-C, [Categorical Eligibility](#), for information on categorical eligibility.

Households cannot have countable resources over the applicable limit unless the household is categorically eligible.

COUNTABLE RESOURCES

Information about determining what resources are countable is organized into the following sections:

- ◆ [Whose resources to count](#)
- ◆ [What resources to count](#)
- ◆ [Verifying resources](#)
- ◆ [Joint ownerships](#)

For applicant households, disqualification can last up to 12 months, beginning with the month of application. If the household is currently receiving Food Assistance, begin the disqualification period with the month following the month in which the timely notice period expires, unless the household has requested a hearing and continuation of benefits.

Determining the length of the disqualification period involves several steps:

1. Add the nonexempt transferred resource to the other countable resources of the household.
2. Subtract the resource limit for the particular household from the new amount to find the “amount in excess of the resource limit.”
3. Use the following chart to determine the period of disqualification:

<u>Amount in Excess of Resource Limit</u>	<u>Period of Disqualification</u>
\$ 0 - 249.99	1 month
\$ 250 - 999.99	3 months
\$ 1,000 - 2,999.99	6 months
\$ 3,000 - 4,999.99	9 months
\$ 5,000 or more	12 months

A one-person household with \$1,750 in a bank account transferred ownership of a car used for work and worth \$5,000 to try to qualify for Food Assistance. The first \$4,650 of the car’s value is exempt, leaving \$350 to apply toward the resource limit. The household’s resource limit at the time of application was \$2,000. Calculate the disqualification period as follows:

$\$350$ value of the transferred resource (countable value of the car) + $\$1,750$ bank account = $\$2,100$. $\$2,100 - \$2,000$ (resource limit) = $\$100$ in excess of the resource limit.

Based on the chart, the household must be disqualified for one month.

Send a *Notice of Decision* to disqualify the household if you determine that the household deliberately transferred resources to qualify or try to qualify for Food Assistance. Include in the notice the reason for the disqualification and how long the disqualification will last.

Change the disqualification period if you did not determine the period correctly. However, a change in household circumstances cannot change or end the disqualification period.