

EES Policy No. 25-10-06	<b>RE:</b> Eligibility for Standard Utility Allowance based on receipt of LIEAP
<b>Policy Memo</b>	<b>Contact Persons:</b> Elizabeth Ahumada
<b>From:</b> Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks, EES Director	<b>KEESM Reference:</b> <a href="#">7226.3</a>
<b>Date:</b> October 1, 2025	<b>Other:</b>
<b>Primary DCF Areas Affected:</b> Food Assistance	<b>Where Posted on Web:</b> <a href="http://content.dcf.ks.gov/ees/KEESM/Policy_Memo/policy_memo_list.htm">http://content.dcf.ks.gov/ees/KEESM/Policy_Memo/policy_memo_list.htm</a>

On July 4, 2025, Public Law 119-21, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 (OBBA), was signed into law. The law contains several provisions that affect the Food Assistance Program. This memo serves to provide guidance regarding changes to policy surrounding the standard utility allowance (SUA) and the treatment of Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) payments.

Effective October 1, 2025, only households that have at least one person who is considered elderly or disabled for food assistance qualify to use the SUA solely based on receipt of a qualifying LIEAP payment.

At recertification, households currently eligible for the SUA based on receipt of a qualifying LIEAP payment but not containing at least one elderly or disabled household member will only qualify for the utility allowance that corresponds to the utilities they pay.

**Important!!** Households without an elderly or disabled member can still qualify for SUA if the household incurs heating or cooling expenses.

No viable system workaround is currently available. As a result, a limited number of households will continue to receive SUA based on their receipt of LIEAP payments until KEES rules are formally revised.

This change is effective October 1, 2025, but will not be reflected in KEESM until December 1, 2026 revisions.

Questions about this policy memo can be sent to [DCF.SNAPPolicyQuestions@ks.gov](mailto:DCF.SNAPPolicyQuestions@ks.gov).