

Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA)



The FSSA is a non-taxable supplemental subsistence allowance. The FSSA program increases a soldier's Basic Allowance for Subsistence by an amount equal to the total dollars required to bring that soldier's household income to 130 percent of the federal poverty line, not to exceed (NTE) \$500 per month.

The FSSA program is voluntary and soldiers must apply and be certified to receive FSSA. Active duty and Reserve Component soldiers may participate. The program requires annual re-certification.

If a soldier is receiving food stamps, the amount of the allowance will be equal to the calculated FSSA, or the monthly food stamp allotment received by the soldier, whichever is higher, NTE \$500 per month.

The FSSA income may jeopardize a household's participation in certain programs where eligibility is based on income, such as: subsidized school lunch programs, the Women, Infant, and Children Program, day care programs, and earned income tax credit.

Application Process

- Let's go to the site: [HTTPS://WWW.DMDC.OSD.MIL/FSSA](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/fssa)
 - Use the soldier's last name for identification
 - Use the soldier's social security number for the password
- Section I: Fill out the Personal Information
- Section II: Fill out the Income
 - Note if the soldier is occupying Government quarters go to the help button to retrieve the appropriate Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate for the soldier's grade.
 - Soldier's serving hardship tours should be receiving BAH at the dependent location.
- Special Pays: Hardship Duty Pay, Career Sea Pay, Family Separation Allowance, etc.
- Do not include Family Separation Housing or Cost of Living Allowance.
- Bonuses need to average.
- Fill out other incomes and go through this process for every household member.
- **Print out the result screen.** When you log out of the web page your information will not be stored in the system, and it will impossible to retrieve this information for future reference.
- Report to the Fort Detrick Army Community Service (ACS) office the result of your application.

Definition of Household

- An individual who lives or who, while living with others, customarily purchases food and prepares meals for home consumption separate and apart from others.
- A group of individuals who live together and customarily purchase food and prepare meals together for home consumption.
 - Spouses who live together.
 - Parents and their children 21 years of age or younger who live together.
 - Children (excluding foster children) under 18 who live with and are under parental control of a person other than their parent.

For more information call ACS at 301-619-3455/3456 or check our web page at <http://www.detrick.army.mil/detrick/services/fssa.cfm>