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**The DWP grant is not reduced if the participant receives additional income after starting on the program.**

This means participants who start jobs while on DWP will not see their cash benefits reduced.

The benefits can be increased if the participant's income falls after application or the family size increases.

Notify the county or tribe administering MFIP if an applicant gets a job or receives other income between applying and developing the employment plan.

- That new income may change the calculation of the DWP benefit and possibly cause the family to be ineligible.

**The Diversionary Work Program benefits differ from MFIP benefits in other ways.**

- The cash benefits are not combined with food benefits. Applicants apply for SNAP as a separate benefit.
- The amount of the cash benefit may not be the same as the MFIP benefit:
- The DWP benefit is based on shelter and utility costs. For more information see [Combined Manual 0022.12 \(How to Calc. Benefit Level - MFIP/WB/DWP/GA\)](#).
  - If there are no or minimal shelter costs, participants may receive a personal needs allowance.
  - The maximum amount available for DWP is based on the MFIP cash standard by family size. See [24.9 \(Links MFIP Benefit Levels\)](#).
  - The total benefit could be less than the MFIP cash amount because the family's shelter and utility costs could total less than the MFIP cash standard.
- The county or tribe must vendor (directly pay the landlord and utility company) the following costs up to the maximum grant level for the family size:
  - Shelter.
  - Utility.

The eligibility worker may not know a family's exact DWP benefits until eligibility is actually approved.

- This means many participants may attend the initial employment services meeting with questions about their benefits.
- Explain the delay in the process and refer them back to the eligibility worker for that information.