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FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

City of St. Louis



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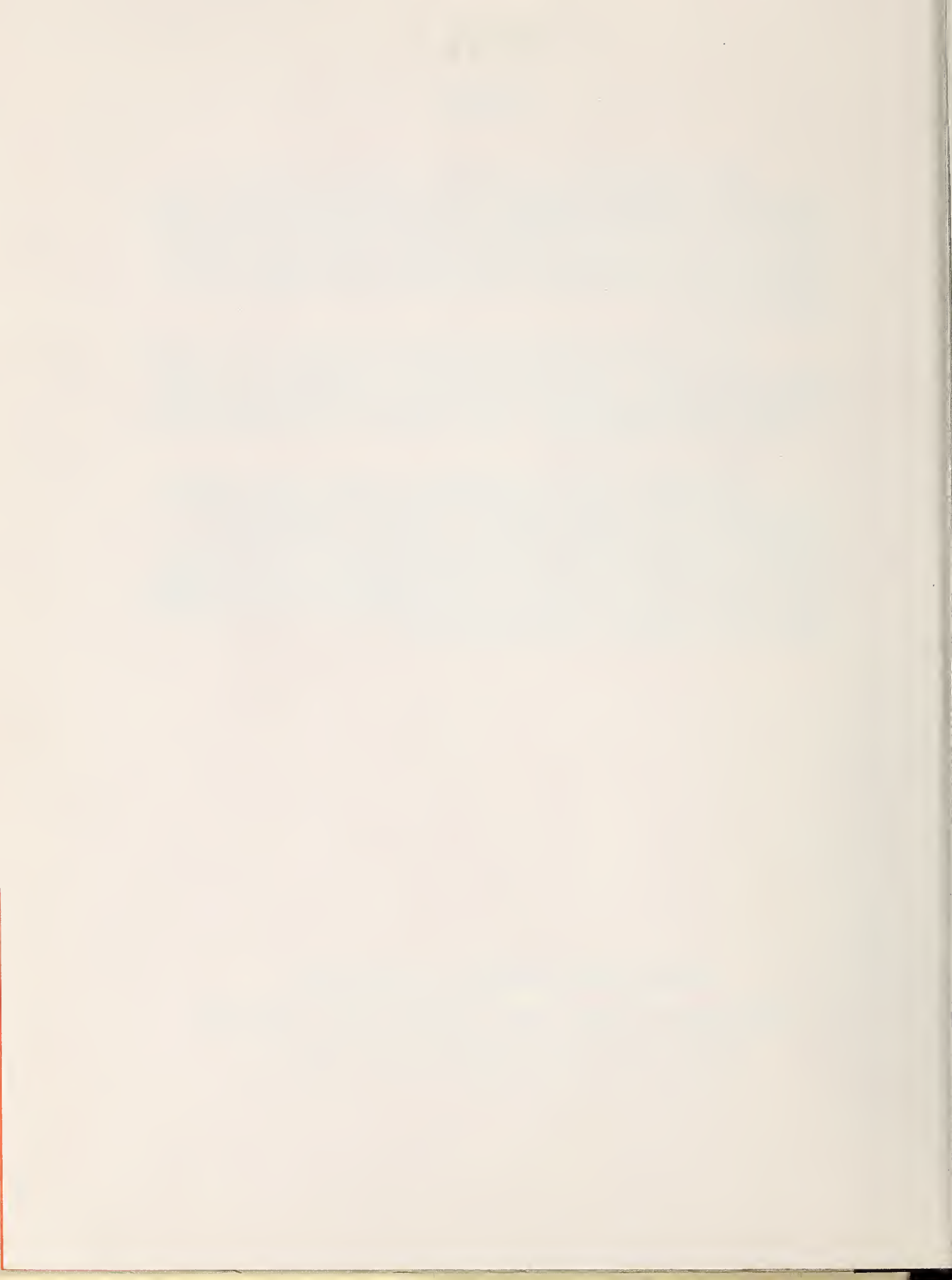
FOREWORD

This publication is intended to provide information on the Federal Food Stamp Program, a food assistance plan for needy persons, to leaders of charitable, civic, and other organizations in St. Louis. It is hoped that with this manual those readers who are in close contact with such persons can provide a better understanding of the program to those who may be eligible to benefit from it.

The Food Stamp Program has been in operation in St. Louis since January 1963. While more than 10,000 persons in the City already are taking advantage of this plan, undoubtedly thousands of others could participate if they understood its operation and the benefits to be derived.

The program has been explained to the St. Louis public through newspapers, radio, and television, plus special meetings with groups of low-income families. However, a widespread "person-to-person" approach also is needed to answer questions affecting participation by individual households. This is where leaders such as you can help. We earnestly ask for your cooperation in this attempt to get more needy families in St. Louis the quantity and variety of foods they need.

United States Department of Agriculture
Department of Public Health & Welfare-State of Missouri
Office of the City Comptroller, St. Louis, Mo.



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COOPERATING AGENCIES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

Food Distribution Division

John T. Means
Project Supervisor
Rm. 934 - U.S. Court
and Customs House
1114 Market Street
Phone: 622-4702

Administers
program in the
City of St. Louis

STATE OF MISSOURI

Division of Welfare

St. Louis City Office

J. P. Lynes
City Director
627 N. Euclid St.
Phone: FO 1-5651

Certifies
recipients
as eligible
to participate

CITY OF ST. LOUIS

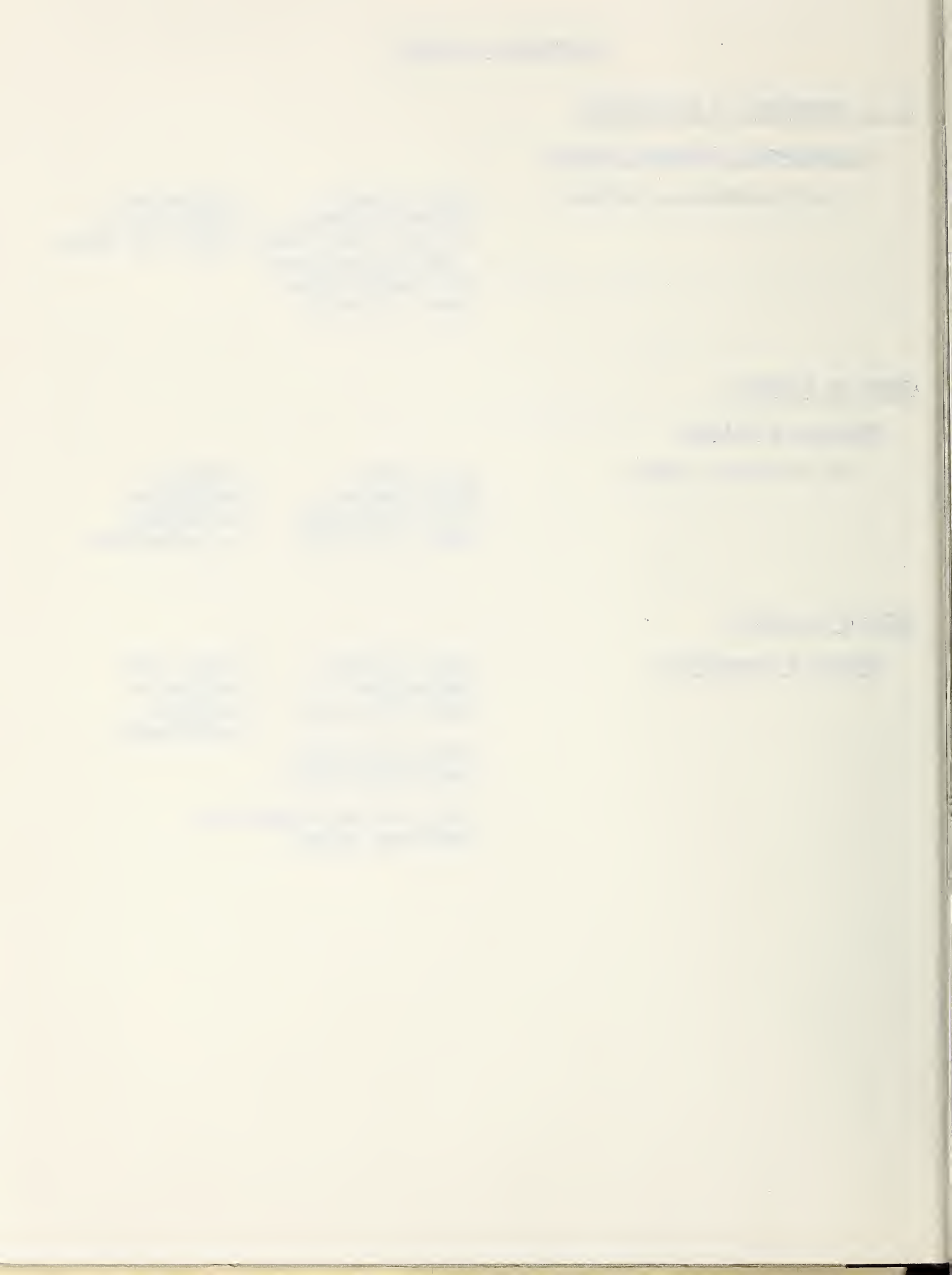
Office of Comptroller

John H. Poelker
Comptroller
Phone: MA 1-5560

Issues food
coupons to
certified
participants

13th & Biddle Sts.
(Northside Office)

918 - 920 Vandeventer Ave.
(Southside Office)



HOW THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM OPERATES

How does it work? The Food Stamp Program, which is intended to make a greater amount and variety of food available to needy families by increasing their purchasing power, operates through normal channels of trade. It has replaced the former distribution of certain government donated foods to low-income families in the St. Louis area.

If a family's income will not enable it to purchase the quantity and variety of foods required to meet its basic nutritional needs, it may be certified to participate in the Food Stamp Program. Such certification is carried out by the City Office of the Missouri Department of Public Health and Welfare on the basis of standards developed by this department in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These families may or may not be receiving public welfare assistance.

After certification, and in order to remain certified, a family is required to purchase coupons at regular intervals. The required purchase is based on the amount of money normally spent by that family for food. Free "bonus" coupons are added at this time. (Tables in the back of this publication show the cash purchase requirements and bonus coupon allotments for families of various sizes and incomes.)

Participants may exchange their coupons for food at any retail store that has been officially authorized by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to accept the coupons. Since more

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than 900 retailers in St. Louis have been authorized, participants probably will be able to continue shopping at their favorite stores.

Food coupons can be used to purchase all domestically produced foods. However, certain imported foods are ineligible. (See page 6). These coupons cannot be used to buy food in public eating places.

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

How does this program benefit me? This question, more than any other, is asked by prospective participants.

The answer is, the participating family is able to buy more food in a wider variety, by the use of bonus coupons which add to the normal food budget. Generally, the persons who are in the most need receive the greatest number of free or bonus coupons in relation to their cash purchase requirement.

For example, a St. Louis family consisting of two adults and three small children has a net monthly income of only \$105. Of this, they allow \$45 to \$50 each month for food. They soon find that in order to give each one the quantity of food he requires, this money must be spent on inexpensive bulk foods. This leaves little or no money for nutritional necessities, such as, fresh meat, fruits, vegetables, milk, and eggs. General malnutrition, and sometimes actual hunger, can result from this type of feeding.

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Under the Food Stamp Program, this family would be required to spend \$46 each month for coupons, but would receive a total of \$86 as its monthly allotment. Thus, the family's food purchasing power is almost doubled. This enables the children to have fresh milk regularly and allows everyone frequent servings of fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

Who can take part? All needy persons, whether receiving public assistance or not, may be eligible, if they are living within the corporate limits of the City of St. Louis. Once those requirements are met--need and residence--eligibility to participate is determined on a basis of "households."

A "household" is defined as a group of individuals, related or not, who are living as one economic unit, sharing a common cooking facility, and for whom food usually is purchased in common. (Residents of an institution or boarding home are not included.) An individual living alone who has cooking facilities and prepares food at home is considered a household.

Households may participate if their total income and liquid assets, related to the number of persons, do not exceed certain amounts (as shown on the table on page 8).

Households consisting entirely of persons receiving public aid (under such programs as Old Age Assistance, Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled, Aid to the Blind, and General Relief) automatically are eligible.

Under the public aid standards similar to those of the Food Stamp Program, these people already have been determined to be in need.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

What if I can't afford it? Possibly some welfare or low income families can't, because a large part of their money goes for shelter, medical or child care costs leaving not enough cash to meet coupon purchase requirements.

In St. Louis, an adjustment can be made if an eligible household pays more than 30 percent of its income for shelter. This applies to rent plus utilities, or in the case of home owners, mortgage payments, taxes, and utilities. These costs in excess of 30 percent are subtracted from the total household income. The resulting figure of adjusted income is then applied to the Basis of Issuance Tables to determine the coupon purchase requirement for the household.

Continuing medical expenses also may qualify a St. Louis household for a reduction in its coupon purchase requirement. If this expense is verified and approved by the city welfare director, or his delegate, the household income figure may be reduced by the amount of the medical expense. The lower income figure would then determine the amount of coupons to be purchased and the amount of bonus coupons to be received.

If a person must pay for child care in order to obtain or hold a job, this expense also may be deducted from the household income figure to determine an adjusted basis of coupon issuance.

PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL

How does a family get started in the program? The head of the household can apply for certification at the City Office of the Missouri State Department of Public Health and Welfare. He, or she, must appear in person with written proof (in so far as possible) of:

1. Residence in the City of St. Louis.
2. Amount and sources of all income for the household.
3. Information as to total liquid assets of the household (including cash on hand or in a safety deposit box, checking and savings accounts, postal savings, building and loan stocks and bonds).
4. Names and ages of all members of the household and the relationship of each to the head of a household.

Any later changes in this information must be reported promptly and participants must be recertified periodically. Households in which all members are receiving public aid are recertified for the Food Stamp Program at the time they are re-approved for public assistance.

Participants may drop out of the program at any time.

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RULES FOR RECIPIENTS

Are there any other requirements? Yes, after certification participants must follow a few simple regulations.

As soon as he is certified, the head of a household is issued a Food Stamp Identification Card, which he or his authorized proxy must sign. This card must be shown when buying food coupons and, if requested, it must also be shown at the retail store when making a purchase.

Certified households must buy coupons regularly in order to retain their eligibility. A record of irregular purchases without justifiable cause may disqualify such households.

The head of household must purchase coupons at the time and issuing office designated on his identification card. He must use cash, as checks will not be accepted. Each book of coupons--but not individual coupons--must be signed by the purchaser.

Before making purchases each recipient should be sure the store is authorized to accept Food Stamp Coupons.

Only the head of household, members of his immediate family, or an authorized proxy are allowed to buy food with the coupons.

All foods or food products which are for human consumption may be purchased with Food Stamp Coupons. Exceptions are imported items such as coffee, tea, cocoa (as such), bananas, and those products clearly identifiable from the package as foreign imports. Also excepted are alcoholic beverages, pet foods, and tobacco.

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At the checkout counter participants always should separate food items to be paid for with coupons from items for which coupons may not be used. They should promptly notify the cashier that it is a coupon transaction.

Coupons cannot be used to pay for past debts or retained by a retailer for future purchases.

All coupons should be kept intact in their books, and detached only in the presence of the cashier. However, recipients may keep loose 50-cent coupons received from retailers as change.

Finally, participants must notify the Division of Welfare of any change in their liquid assets or number of household members.

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TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME & LIQUID ASSET MAXIMUMS

<u>Number of Persons in Household</u>	<u>Maximum Monthly Income</u>	<u>Maximum Liquid Assets</u>
1 - - - - -	\$120.00 - - - - -	\$500.00
2 - - - - -	160.00 - - - - -	500.00
3 - - - - -	190.00 - - - - -	570.00
4 - - - - -	210.00 - - - - -	630.00
5 - - - - -	230.00 - - - - -	690.00
6 - - - - -	250.00 - - - - -	750.00
7 - - - - -	270.00 - - - - -	810.00
8 - - - - -	290.00 - - - - -	870.00
9 - - - - -	310.00 - - - - -	930.00
10 - - - - -	330.00 - - - - -	990.00

For families consisting of more than 10 persons, add \$20.00 for each additional person on monthly income; the maximum liquid assets cannot exceed three times the maximum monthly income.

Income is defined as gross income, after all deductions such as Federal and State withholding taxes, City Earnings Tax, OASDI deductions, union dues, retirement or pension contributions, health insurance and hospitalization payments. Payment made to the household by roomers and/or boarders is considered income to the household. Liquid assets are defined as including cash on hand or in a safety deposit box, checking and savings accounts, postal savings, building and loan stocks, and bonds.

Year	Population	Area
1850	1,000,000	100,000
1860	1,500,000	150,000
1870	2,000,000	200,000
1880	2,500,000	250,000
1890	3,000,000	300,000
1900	3,500,000	350,000
1910	4,000,000	400,000
1920	4,500,000	450,000
1930	5,000,000	500,000
1940	5,500,000	550,000
1950	6,000,000	600,000
1960	6,500,000	650,000
1970	7,000,000	700,000
1980	7,500,000	750,000
1990	8,000,000	800,000
2000	8,500,000	850,000
2010	9,000,000	900,000
2020	9,500,000	950,000

The following table shows the population and area of the United States from 1850 to 2020. The population is shown in millions and the area is shown in thousands of square miles. The data shows a steady increase in both population and area over the period.

Population (in millions):

- 1850: 1.0
- 1860: 1.5
- 1870: 2.0
- 1880: 2.5
- 1890: 3.0
- 1900: 3.5
- 1910: 4.0
- 1920: 4.5
- 1930: 5.0
- 1940: 5.5
- 1950: 6.0
- 1960: 6.5
- 1970: 7.0
- 1980: 7.5
- 1990: 8.0
- 2000: 8.5
- 2010: 9.0
- 2020: 9.5

Area (in thousands of square miles):

- 1850: 100
- 1860: 150
- 1870: 200
- 1880: 250
- 1890: 300
- 1900: 350
- 1910: 400
- 1920: 450
- 1930: 500
- 1940: 550
- 1950: 600
- 1960: 650
- 1970: 700
- 1980: 750
- 1990: 800
- 2000: 850
- 2010: 900
- 2020: 950

BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY*

If monthly net income is...	Participant must purchase this amount of coupons..	Participant gets this amount of free coupons...	Total Coupons Received
:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:

One-Person Household

\$ 0 - 19.99	\$4	\$10	\$14
20 - 29.99	8	8	16
30 - 39.99	10	8	18
40 - 49.99	12	6	18
50 - 59.99	14	6	20
60 - 79.99	16	6	22
80 - 99.99	18	6	24
100 - 120	20	6	26

Two-Person Household

\$ 0 - 19.99	\$4	\$20	\$24
20 - 29.99	8	20	28
30 - 39.99	12	18	30
40 - 49.99	16	18	34
50 - 59.99	18	18	36
60 - 69.99	20	18	38
70 - 79.99	24	16	40
80 - 99.99	28	16	44
100 -119.99	32	14	46
120 -139.99	36	12	48
140 -160	40	10	50

* Purchase can also be made on a semi-monthly basis at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.

BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY*

If Monthly Net Income Is...	: Participant Must Purchase This Amount of Coupons...	:	Participant Gets This Amount of Free Coupons...	:	Total Coupons Received
:	:	:	:	:	:

Three-Person Household

\$ 0 - 19.99	\$ 6	\$32	\$38
20 - 29.99	10	32	42
30 - 39.99	14	30	44
40 - 49.99	18	30	48
50 - 59.99	22	28	50
60 - 69.99	26	28	54
70 - 79.99	30	26	56
80 - 89.99	34	26	60
90 - 99.99	38	24	62
100 - 119.99	44	22	66
120 - 139.99	50	20	70
140 - 159.99	56	18	74
160 - 179.99	62	16	78
180 - 190	66	14	80

* Purchase can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half the monthly amounts shown.

STATE OF TEXAS

County of _____

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession
1	John Smith	25	M	W	Farmer
2	Mary Smith	22	F	W	Housewife
3	James Smith	18	M	W	Student
4	Elizabeth Smith	15	F	W	Student
5	Robert Smith	12	M	W	Student
6	William Smith	10	M	W	Student
7	Anna Smith	8	F	W	Student
8	Thomas Smith	6	M	W	Student
9	Sarah Smith	4	F	W	Student
10	Charles Smith	3	M	W	Student

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 19____

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY *			
If Monthly	Participant	Participant	Total
Net Income	Must Purchase	Gets This Amount	Coupons
Is...	This Amount of	of Free	Received
:	Coupons...	Coupons...	:
:	:	:	:
Four - Person Household			

\$ 0 - 19.99	\$ 6	\$44	\$50
20 - 29.99	10	42	52
30 - 39.99	14	42	56
40 - 49.99	20	40	60
50 - 59.99	24	40	64
60 - 69.99	28	38	66
70 - 79.99	32	38	70
80 - 89.99	36	36	72
90 - 99.99	40	34	74
100 - 109.99	44	32	76
110 - 119.99	48	30	78
120 - 139.99	54	28	82
140 - 159.99	60	26	86
160 - 179.99	66	24	90
180 - 199.99	70	22	92
200 - 210	74	20	94

* Purchase can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TO :	DATE :	SUBJECT :	PAGE NO.

NO.	NAME	POST	REMARKS
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Prepared by: _____
 Checked by: _____
 Date: _____

BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY*			
If Monthly	Participant	Participant	Total
Net Income	Must Purchase	Gets This Amount	Coupons
Is...	This Amount of	of Free	Received
:	Coupons...	Coupons...	:
:	:	:	:

Five-Person Household

\$ 0 - 19.99	\$ 6	\$52	\$58
20 - 29.99	10	50	60
30 - 39.99	14	50	64
40 - 49.99	20	48	68
50 - 59.99	24	48	72
60 - 69.99	30	46	76
70 - 79.99	34	46	80
80 - 89.99	38	44	82
90 - 99.99	42	42	84
100 - 109.99	46	40	86
110 - 119.99	50	38	88
120 - 129.99	54	36	90
130 - 139.99	58	34	92
140 - 159.99	64	32	96
160 - 179.99	70	30	100
180 - 199.99	76	28	104
200 - 219.99	82	26	108
220 - 230	88	24	112

* Purchases can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TO: [Illegible]

FROM: [Illegible]

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block containing the main body of the memorandum, including a detailed description of the subject matter and any actions taken or recommended.]

Very truly yours,
[Illegible Signature]

BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY *			
If Monthly :	Participant :	Participant :	Total :
Net Income :	Must Purchase :	Gets This Amount :	Coupons :
Is... :	This Amount of :	of Free :	Received :
:	Coupons... :	Coupons... :	:
:	:	:	:

<u>Six-Person Household</u>			
\$ 0 - 19.99	\$ 6	\$60	\$66
20 - 29.99	10	58	68
30 - 39.99	14	58	72
40 - 49.99	20	56	76
50 - 59.99	24	56	80
60 - 69.99	30	54	84
70 - 79.99	34	52	86
80 - 89.99	40	50	90
90 - 99.99	44	48	92
100 - 109.99	48	46	94
110 - 119.99	52	44	96
120 - 129.99	56	42	98
130 - 139.99	62	40	102
140 - 159.99	68	38	106
160 - 179.99	74	36	110
180 - 199.99	80	34	114
200 - 219.99	86	32	118
220 - 239.99	92	30	122
240 - 250	98	28	126

* Purchases can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.

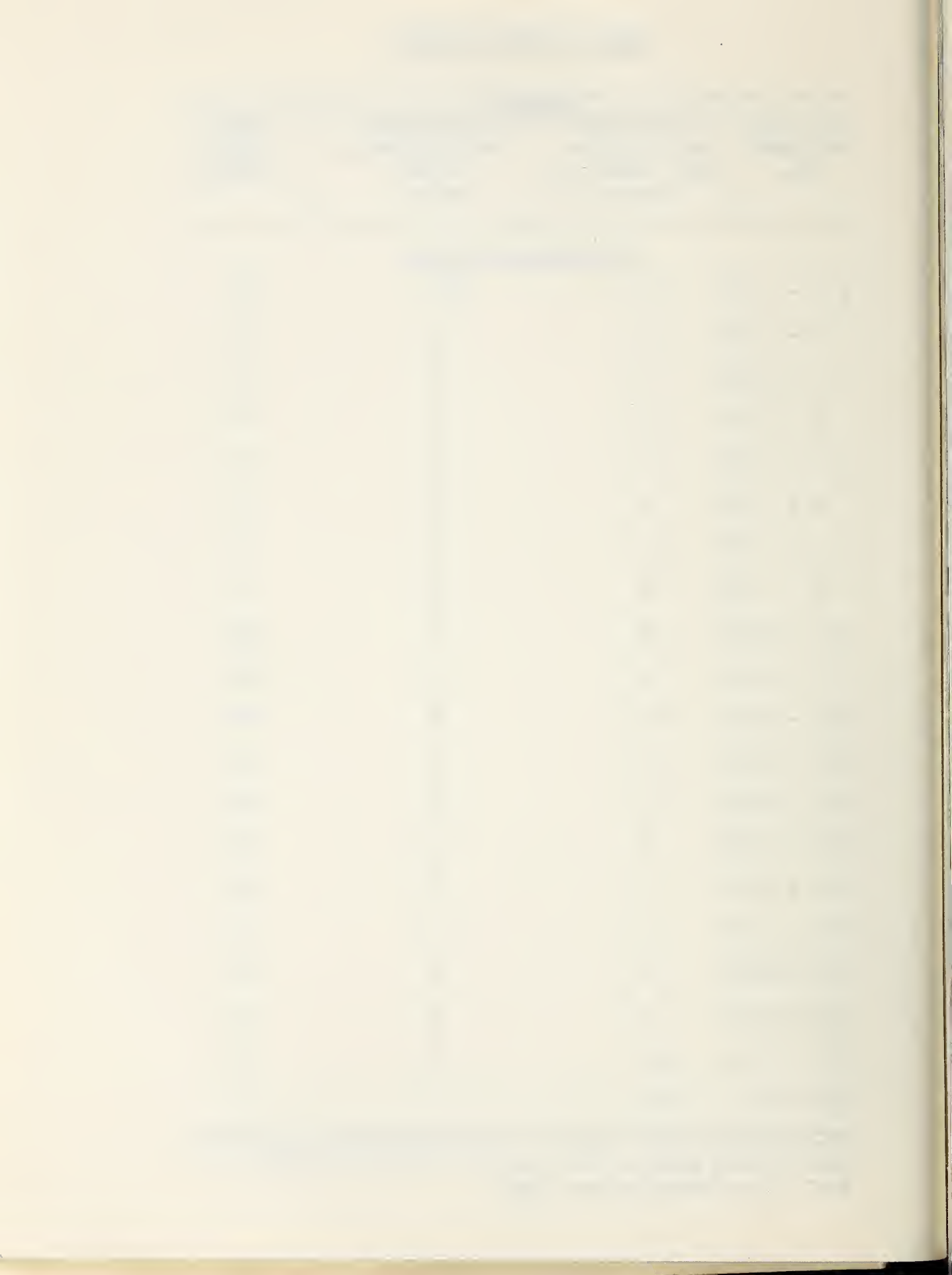
BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY*			
If Monthly	Participant	Participant	Total
Net Income	Must Purchase	Gets This Amount	Coupons
Is...	This Amount of	of Free	Received
	Coupons...	Coupons	

Seven-Person Household

\$ 0 - 29.99	\$ 8	\$66	\$74
30 - 39.99	14	64	78
40 - 49.99	20	62	82
50 - 59.99	24	62	86
60 - 69.99	30	60	90
70 - 79.99	34	58	92
80 - 89.99	40	56	96
90 - 99.99	44	54	98
100 - 109.99	50	52	102
110 - 119.99	54	50	104
120 - 129.99	60	48	108
130 - 139.99	64	46	110
140 - 149.99	68	44	112
150 - 159.99	72	44	116
160 - 179.99	78	42	120
180 - 199.99	84	40	124
200 - 219.99	90	38	128
220 - 239.99	96	36	132
240 - 259.99	102	34	136
260 - 270	106	32	138

* Purchases can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.



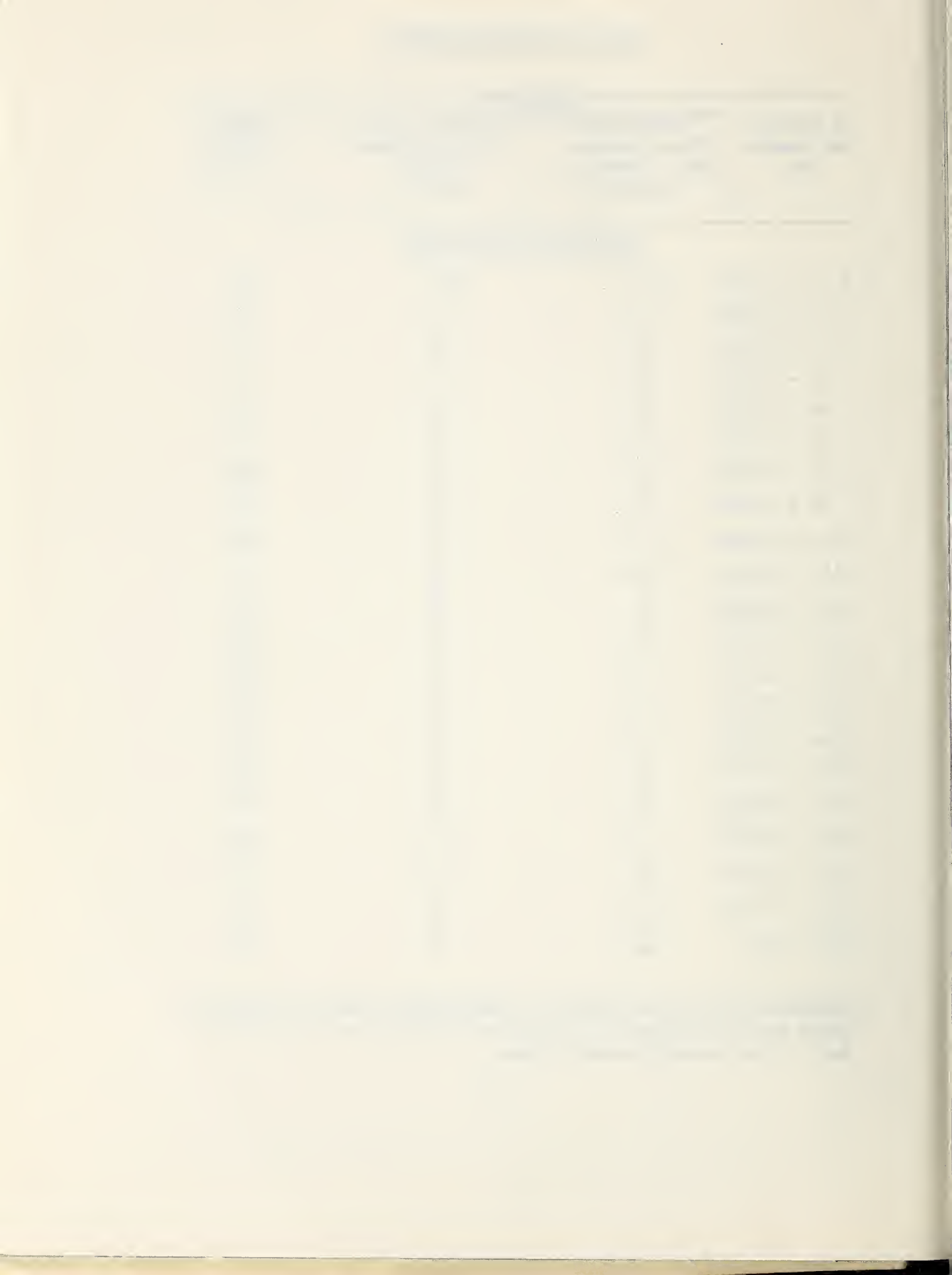
BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY *			
If Monthly :	Participant	Participant	Total
Net Income :	Must Purchase	Gets This Amount	Coupons
Is... :	This Amount of	of Free	Received
:	Coupons..	Coupons...	:
:	:	:	:

Eight-Person Household

\$ 0 - 29.99	\$ 8	\$72	\$80
30 - 39.99	14	70	84
40 - 49.99	20	68	88
50 - 59.99	24	68	92
60 - 69.99	30	66	96
70 - 79.99	34	64	98
80 - 89.99	40	62	102
90 - 99.99	44	60	104
100 - 109.99	50	58	108
110 - 119.99	54	56	110
120 - 129.99	60	54	114
130 - 139.99	64	52	116
140 - 149.99	70	50	120
150 - 159.99	74	50	124
160 - 179.99	80	48	128
180 - 199.99	86	46	132
200 - 219.99	92	44	136
220 - 239.99	98	42	140
240 - 259.99	104	40	144
260 - 279.99	110	38	148
280 - 290	114	36	150

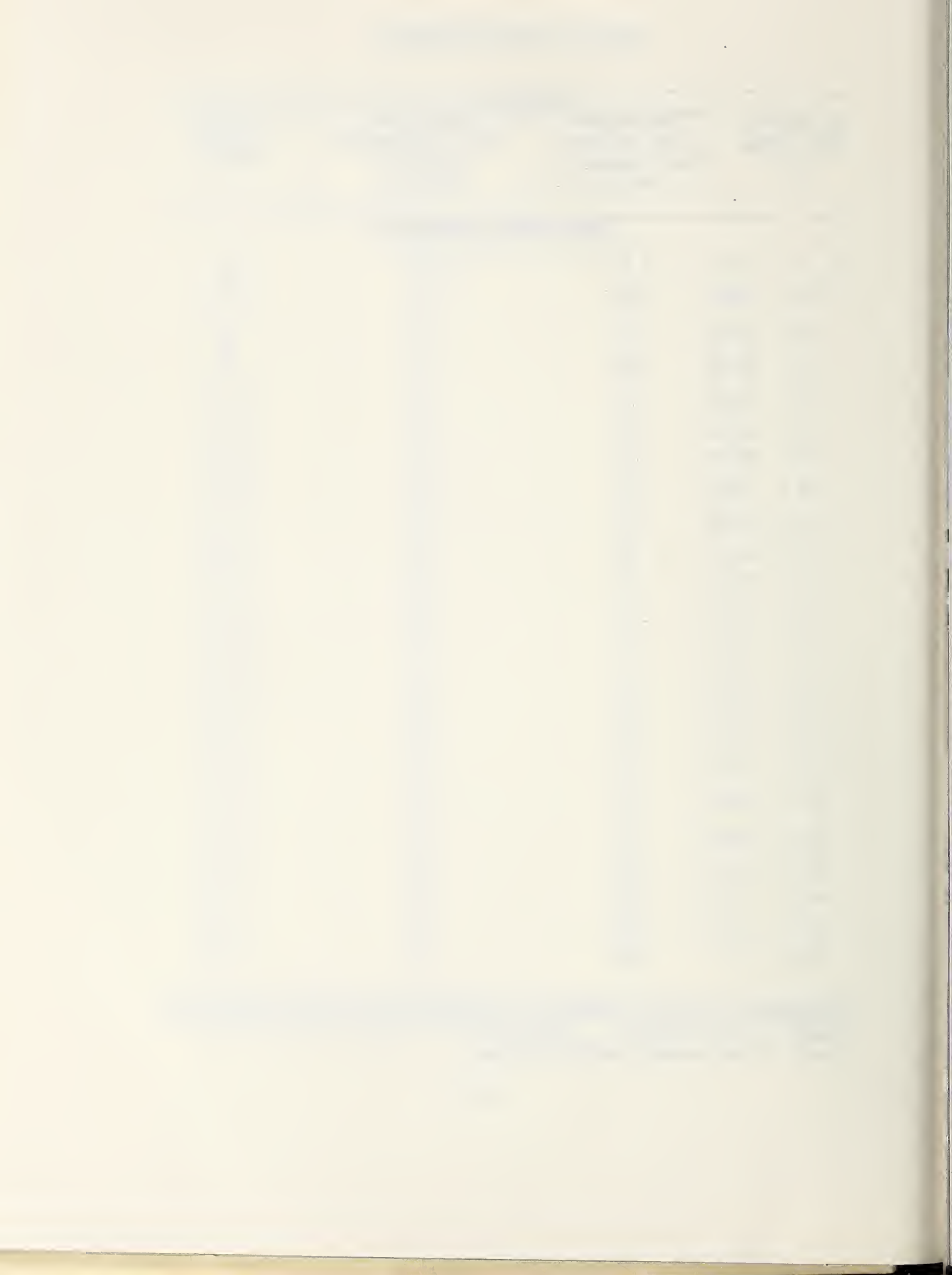
* Purchases can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.



BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY *			
If Monthly :	Participant	Participant	Total
Net Income :	Must Purchase	Gets This Amount	Coupons
Is...	This Amount of	of Free	Received
:	Coupons...	Coupons...	:
:	:	:	:
<u>Nine-Person Household</u>			
\$ 0 - 29.99	\$ 8	\$76	\$84
30 - 39.99	14	74	88
40 - 49.99	20	72	92
50 - 59.99	24	72	96
60 - 69.99	30	70	100
70 - 79.99	34	68	102
80 - 89.99	40	66	106
90 - 99.99	44	64	108
100 - 109.99	50	62	112
110 - 119.99	54	60	114
120 - 129.99	60	58	118
130 - 139.99	64	56	120
140 - 149.99	70	54	124
150 - 159.99	74	54	128
160 - 179.99	80	52	132
180 - 199.99	86	50	136
200 - 219.99	92	48	140
220 - 239.99	98	46	144
240 - 259.99	104	44	148
260 - 279.99	110	42	152
280 - 299.99	114	40	154
300 - 310	118	40	158

* Purchases can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.



BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE

MONTHLY *			
If Monthly :	Participant :	Participant :	Total :
Net Income :	Must Purchase :	Gets This Amount :	Coupons :
Is... :	This Amount of :	of Free :	Received :
:	Coupons... :	Coupons... :	:
:	:	:	:

Ten-Person Household

\$ 0 - 29.99	\$ 8	\$80	\$88
30 - 39.99	14	78	92
40 - 49.99	20	76	96
50 - 59.99	24	76	100
60 - 69.99	30	74	104
70 - 79.99	34	72	106
80 - 89.99	40	70	110
90 - 99.99	44	68	112
100 - 109.99	50	66	116
110 - 119.99	54	64	118
120 - 129.99	60	62	122
130 - 139.99	64	60	124
140 - 149.99	70	58	128
150 - 159.99	74	58	132
160 - 179.99	80	56	136
180 - 199.99	86	54	140
200 - 219.99	92	52	144
220 - 239.99	98	50	148
240 - 259.99	104	48	152
260 - 279.99	110	46	156
280 - 299.99	114	44	158
300 - 319.99	118	44	162
320 - 330	122	44	166

* Purchase can also be made on a semi-monthly basis, at half the above monthly amounts. Free and total coupons would also be half of the monthly amounts shown.







