Beginning July 2013, Special Assistance (SA), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Work First Family Assistance (WFFA) payments will begin the change from paper checks to electronic payments. SA, including SA In-Home and WFFA payments will be issued as a Direct Deposit to your personal bank account (checking or savings). If you cannot get a bank account, your SA, including SA In-Home, or WFFA payment will be issued on an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card. If you receive RCA your payment will be issued on an EBT card, unless you have a bank account. Families that receive Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) and WFFA, RCA or SA may receive these benefits on their FNS EBT card, if the head of household is the same on each case and you cannot get a bank account. In the coming months, included with your SA or WFFA check, you will receive a Direct Deposit Authorization Form with instructions for providing your bank information. Please complete the form and return it to your local department of social services. The form only needs to be completed one time unless you change your savings or checking account.

It will take several months before all 100 counties are able to make this change. Households will be notified as local department of social services begin the change from paper checks to electronic payments.

Please contact your local department of social services if you have questions or need help completing the form.