



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Food and
Nutrition
Service**

3101 Park Center Dr
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

December 26, 2018

SUBJECT: Lapse in FY2019 Appropriations and Impacts for the
Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service,
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

TO: SNAP State Agency Directors
All States

Due to a lapse in appropriations for the Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), as of Friday, December 21, 2018, an orderly partial shutdown of operations has resulted.

We understand the uncertainty that these circumstances present for FNS customers and partners nationwide. Effective today, many FNS staff will be furloughed pending reinstatement of funding by Congress, and will not be available by phone or email. They cannot carry out normal work functions until funding is restored.

However, under the terms and conditions of the prior continuing resolution (P.L. 115 - 245), SNAP will continue operations and eligible households will receive monthly benefits for January. In addition, funding is available for State administrative expenses (SAE) through the end of January. States should continue to administer the program in accordance with Federal statute and regulations.

Please direct any questions regarding the lapse in funding to your Regional Administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Shahin".

for

Jessica Shahin
Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program