From:	Gold, Andrea - FNS
To:	Malveaux, Eugene - FNS; Roberts, Rajonia - FNS; Swanson-Hall, Erin - FNS; McCall, Brian - FNS; Powell, Karen - FNS
Cc:	Burr, David - FNS; Greenwood, Lisa - FNS; Pauley, Edward - FNS; Hortin, Steve - FNS; Kreh, Tim - FNS; Opara, Felix - FNS; Nichols, Nadine - FNS; Shahin, Jessica - FNS; Balbes, Maribelle - FNS; Griffin, Laura - FNS; Pierce, Shelly - FNS; Silbermann, Lizbeth - FNS; Gersten-Paal, Sasha - FNS; Patyk, Karen - FNS; DeLaCruz Kriviski, Eliot - FNS; Maloney, Wayne - RD, Washington, DC; Abelev, Melissa - FNS; Hardison, Brooke - FNS; Garcia, Kristin - FNS; Lucas, Richard - FNS; Muns, Tamieka - FNS; Billger, Hans - FNS; Kaup, Glenn - FNS; Mouw, Traci - FNS; Carrasco, Rogelio - FNS; Noble, John (David) - FNS; Swezy, Shanta - FNS; Carter, Scott - FNS; Koster, Patrick - FNS; Shelby, Carolyn - FNS; Castillo, Georgina - FNS; Gold, Andrea - FNS; Hughes, Sarah - FNS
Subject:	COVID-19: FL Emergency Allotments Approval
Date:	Monday, March 30, 2020 4:20:06 PM
Attachments:	FL Waiver Request to Provide Emergency Allotments (Supplements) to SNAP Households updated.pdf

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SERO Team,

Please consider this FNS' approval of Florida's attached request to issue Emergency Allotments (EA) to all ongoing SNAP households in the State of Florida.

This approval will allow the State to issue EA to ongoing SNAP households for March and April 2020, increasing their current monthly allotment up to the maximum monthly allotment for a household of that size. The approval is for two months and any extension beyond that timeframe would require additional FNS approval. Ongoing SNAP households that already receive the maximum monthly allotment for their household size are not eligible for EA. All EA will be delivered on ongoing SNAP households' EBT cards.

Please ask the State to confirm receipt and REPLY ALL, upon notice of the State's confirmation of receipt. We would also ask the State to alert any contacts they may have in the retailer community of the emergency issuance and its timing, so stores can stock up in preparation.

Thanks, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Andrea

Andrea Gold-O'Connor
Director
SNAP, Retailer and Issuance Policy
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
1320 Braddock Place, Room 518
Alexandria, VA 22314
https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19

State of Florida Waiver Request
Request to Provide Emergency Allotments (Supplements) to SNAP Households

1. **Type of Request:** Initial

2. **Primary Citation:** Families First Coronavirus Response Act

3. **State:** Florida

4. **Proposed Alternative Procedures:**

   The State is proposing to provide an emergency allotment to address temporary food needs to households to bring all households up to the maximum benefit due to pandemic related economic conditions for up to 2 months. Contingent upon the availability of funding and ongoing need, USDA may approve additional months of emergency issuance with an extension request from the State.

   These households are eligible for temporary emergency allotments because:

   - There is a public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and there is a State-wide emergency or disaster declaration (copy attached); and

   - Due to Covid-19 [check all that apply]:
     - ✓ Residents of the State are confirmed to have contracted Covid-19
     - __ Some or all areas of the State are containment or quarantine zones
     - ✓ Businesses have closed or significantly reduced their hours
     - ✓ The State's residents have experienced economic impacts due to job suspensions or losses
     - ✓ The State's residents have been directed to practice social distancing

   Issuing Emergency Allotments to Current SNAP Households:

   Supplemental emergency allotments would be issued in the following manner:
   In March 2020:

   - ✓ On a single date [specify]: April 4, 2020
   - ___ Over a series of days as follows:_____
   - ___ Staggered as follows: _____
   - ___ Other [please explain]:_____

In April, emergency allotments will be issued as a supplement to ongoing households on the regularly staggered issuance schedule. Programming for the April supplement is scheduled to be completed April 7, 2020. Issuance for households that normally receive benefits between April 1st and April 7th, will receive their supplement on April 8, 2020. Households that receive their monthly issuance between April 8th and April 28th, will receive their supplement on their regular issuance day.

New households approved for SNAP benefits will have a supplement issued within a week.

The State may provide the emergency allotment(s) without contacting the household. While individual notification is not required, States should notify clients consistent with SNAP requirements for mass changes, including notice that emergency allotments will be issued for up to 2 months. Should this schedule change and additional months are approved during the public health emergency, the State will provide a subsequent mass change notice at that time.

Other Requirements: [If applicable, STATE SHOULD ADDRESS ANY OTHER STATE-SPECIFIC NEEDS THEY MAY HAVE.]

All emergency allotments will be delivered on the household's EBT card.

The State's SNAP agency also agrees to complete the FNS-292 on a timely basis in accordance with requirements as well as all other normally recurring SNAP reporting included the FNS 46 and 388 reports, on a timely basis in accordance with requirements.

In addition, The State agency will submit weekly reports to FNS with the following information for the entire State:

- The value of EA issued.
- The average issuance amount per household.
- The number of households issued EA

Justification for Request: Coronavirus COVID-19, as provided by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

5. **Affected Caseload:**

One month estimates for existing SNAP households under these procedures:

- Number of households receiving emergency allotments benefits: 985,468
- Amount of emergency allotment benefits issued for one month: $ 157,326,719
- Number of months requested (2-month limit): March and April

USDA reserves the right to withdraw or otherwise modify this approval subject to availability of funding

6. **Anticipated Implementation Date:**
   Florida is requesting an increase to the maximum allotment for current SNAP recipients for months March 2020 and April 2020. Additionally, any new recipients during this time period will receive the maximum monthly allotment based on their household size.

7. **Signature and Title of Requesting State Agency Official:**

   Taylor N. Hatch

   _____
   Taylor Hatch, Assistant Secretary, Economic Self Sufficiency

8. **Date of Request:** March 27, 2020

9. **State Agency Staff Contact:**
   Tonyaleah Veltkamp, Chief of Policy, Department of Children and Families
   Tonyaleah.Veltkamp@myflfamilies.com / (850) 717-4142