



Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

April 10, 2020

1320 Braddock Place  
Alexandria, VA  
22314

Mr. David Locklear  
Deputy Director  
Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Hargrove Building  
820 South Boylan Avenue  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-2420

RE: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – North Carolina  
request to suspend claims collection action and delinquency determination  
due to COVID-19

Dear Mr. Locklear:

This letter transmits approval of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) request to suspend collection action on SNAP overpayments and delinquency determination on households whose payment are affected by this suspension. North Carolina DHHS requested this temporary authority to alleviate financial hardship on households as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving this request through May 31, 2020, pursuant to 7 CFR 272.3(c)(1)(i), which authorizes FNS to approve requested waivers of regulatory provisions that cannot be implemented due to extraordinary temporary situations.

FNS approves the State agency's request to temporarily suspend SNAP claims collection by waiving regulations at 7 CFR 273.18(e)(1), which require State agencies to begin collection on all claims unless it is not cost effective. FNS also approves the State agency's request to suspend delinquency determination by waiving regulations at 7 CFR 273.18(e)(5), which indicate a claim must be considered delinquent if a scheduled payment has not been received by the due date.

The State agency may temporarily suspend collection of active recoupment of overpayments and delay collection action on newly established overpayments. The State agency will not consider payments delayed due to this suspension to be delinquent. Households remain liable for their outstanding SNAP debts and the State agency will restart collection activity and delinquency determinations at the end of the waiver period.

Mr. David Locklear  
Page 2

If you have questions or need additional information regarding this adjustment, please contact your Regional Office representative.

Sincerely,

4/10/2020

X Ronald K. Ward

---

Ronald K. Ward  
Director, Program Accountability and Administrati...  
Signed by: Department of Agriculture