

Food and Nutrition
Service

May 18, 2020

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

SUBJECT: Extension Approval of Disaster Household Distribution in Response to the National Emergency Declaration Due to COVID-19

TO: Kurt Messner
Regional Administrator
Northeast Regional Office

This memorandum is in response to the New York State Office of General Services' (New York OGS) request to extend its use of U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foods to operate disaster household distribution beyond its initial approved end date of May 15, 2020. This request is in response to food assistance needs resulting from the COVID-19 National Emergency declared by the President of the United States on March 13, 2020.

New York OGS requested that USDA extend its initial approval to use USDA Foods from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for disaster household distribution in New York City. New York OGS is approved to continue the utilization of the same distribution methods to provide food assistance for a cumulative total, not to exceed 500,000 individuals, over the course of the 30-day approval period.

An extension is granted for disaster household distribution beginning May 18, 2020 through June 16, 2020. New York OGS is authorized to use the previously approved disaster household distribution food package to continue providing food assistance to impacted households. New York OGS must also follow the same Terms of Approval as stated in the original approval letter dated April 16, 2020, to include but not limited to weekly reporting of:

- 1) the amount of TEFAP inventory used for disaster household distributions, and
- 2) the number of persons served under the disaster household distribution.

Should New York OGS need additional assistance, other resources may be available through FEMA, <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/12/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-purchase-and-distribution-food-eligible-public>, and through other USDA programs such as USDA Farmers to Families, <https://www.ams.usda.gov/publications/content/farmers-families-food-box-program-faqs>.

Please have New York OGS contact the FNS Northeast Regional Office for more information should they have any questions regarding this approval.



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Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs