

Food and Nutrition
Service

May 19, 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: Bill Ludwig
Regional Administrator
Southwest Regional Office

This memorandum is in response to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services' (OK DHS) 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 18, 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.

OK DHS requested that USDA extend its initial approval to use USDA Foods from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for disaster household distribution to households at public COVID-19 testing sites who express food insecurity during the intake process. OK DHS is approved to continue the utilization of the same distribution methods to provide food assistance for a cumulative total, not to exceed 15,500 individuals, over the course of the 30-day approval period.

An extension is granted for disaster household distribution beginning May 19, 2020 through June 17, 2020. OK DHS is authorized to use the previously approved disaster household distribution food package to continue providing food assistance to impacted households. OK DHS must also follow the same Terms of Approval as stated in the original approval letter dated April 19, 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 OK DHS 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 OK DHS contact the FNS Southwest Regional Office for more information should they have any questions regarding this approval.



Diane M. Kriviski
Deputy Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs