



Food and Nutrition
Service

September 11, 2020

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

Babette Roberts
Director, Community Services Division
Economic Services Administration
Department of Social and Health Services
P.O. Box 45440
Olympia, Washington 98504

RE: SNAP - Washington Request to Extend Periodic Reporting Requirements
Due to COVID-19 - Initial - Denial

Dear Ms. Roberts:

This letter transmits the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) denial of the Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) adjustment request to extend periodic reporting requirements for ongoing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households statewide ending October through December 2020.

FNS recognizes that the State is facing challenges in processing ongoing cases at this time due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. However, based on the data submitted by the State, FNS does not find that an extension of the adjustment is necessary to be consistent with what is practicable under actual conditions in the State. FNS would like to work with the State agency on a transition plan that moves the State forward toward operations that are consistent with periodic reporting requirements of section 6(c)(1)(D)(i) of the Act, and SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.10(f)(1) and 7 CFR 273.12(a)(5)(iii)(B) for ongoing households in October through December 2020.

FNS guidance for States in response to COVID-19 is available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19>. Requests, approvals, and denials of waivers and adjustments related to COVID-19 will also be posted to this webpage.

FNS stands ready to provide technical assistance and will consider future requests for adjustments in subsequent months if circumstances in the State change, such as a spike in new applications, and sufficient data is provided to support these flexibilities during the public health emergency.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact your respective Regional Office representative.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Director
Program Development Division
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program