

From: [Gagliardi, David - FNS](#)
To: [Seymour, Anthea \(DHS\)](#)
Cc: [Ribar, Michael \(DHS\)](#); [Drake, Carla \(DHS\)](#); [Ratchford, Eric - FNS](#); [Jenkins, Bill - FNS](#); [Boger, Kelly - FNS](#); [Alphe-Igiehon, Geraldine - FNS](#); [Jacober-Brown, Sally - FNS](#); [Hayes, Alyssa - FNS](#); [SM.FN.SNAP-PDD-COVID](#)
Subject: FW: COVID-19 DC Adjustment Extensions Approval - August
Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:51:03 PM
Attachments: [Mayor's Order 2020-079 Extension of the Public Emergency and Delegations 07-22-2020.pdf](#)

Dear Anthea,

Thank you for your email on July 22, 2020 and providing the Mayor's declaration of DC's State of Emergency extension through October 9, 2020. Your request to extend the following adjustments has been approved through August 31, 2020:

Extend Certification Periods and Adjust Reporting Requirements – COV-001
Adjustment for Initial Certification and Recertification Interviews – COV-090

All terms and conditions outlined within the previously approved adjustment(s) apply. Please note, the evaluation report deadline remains 45 days after the end of the adjustments. Data only needs to be provided once per adjustment, regardless of the duration of the waiver.

As noted in our previous email, FNS will approve extensions beyond August on an extremely limited basis. In order to receive an extension beyond August, a State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which the State is requesting the adjustment and provide data that demonstrates that the adjustment continues to be warranted given the current circumstances in the State. FNS expects requests include data on substantial increases in new applications in recent months (e.g. July and August for September adjustment), sizable increases in a backlog of case actions or applications, or a significant decrease in staffing capacity due to COVID-19, among other supporting information. States are expected to reasonably adjust to changing circumstances, including caseload growth, and FNS will not approve requests where the data is merely comparable with the State agency's data from non-COVID-19 circumstances in which FNS was working with the State under a corrective action plan. These requests should also include plans to return to a new normal in a short time frame. States must submit these requests by the 10th day the month before the adjustment would take effect with a response due back from FNS to the State by the 15th. Because approvals for adjustments beyond August will be extremely limited, States should make arrangements to ensure they are able to return to their new normal by September 1, 2020.

We stand ready to provide technical assistance and answer any of your questions.

Thank you,



Dave Gagliardi, Branch Chief/Regional Disaster Coordinator
SNAP, Program Operations
FNS, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
[REDACTED]

From: Seymour, Anthea (DHS) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Gagliardi, David - FNS [REDACTED]
Cc: Ribar, Michael (DHS) [REDACTED]; Ortiz-Medina, Carlos - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Ratchford, Eric - FNS [REDACTED]; Jenkins, Bill - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Boger, Kelly - FNS [REDACTED]; Jacober-Brown, Sally - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Hayes, Alyssa - FNS [REDACTED]; SM.FN.SNAP-PDD-COVID [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Alphe-Igiehon, Geraldine - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: COVID-19 DC Adjustment Extensions Approval - July

Mr. Gagliardi, the District of Columbia truly appreciates FNS' approval for the month of July.

Attached is the official signed extension of public emergency through October 9, 2020; therefore, we are hereby requesting approval for the month of August.

Thanks a lot!

Anthea

Anthea Seymour | Administrator | Department of Human Services, Economic Security Administration | [REDACTED]

From: Gagliardi, David - FNS [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Seymour, Anthea (DHS) [REDACTED]
Cc: Ribar, Michael (DHS) [REDACTED]; Ortiz-Medina, Carlos - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Ratchford, Eric - FNS [REDACTED]; Jenkins, Bill - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Boger, Kelly - FNS [REDACTED]; Jacober-Brown, Sally - FNS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Hayes, Alyssa - FNS [REDACTED]; SM.FN.SNAP-PDD-COVID [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: COVID-19 DC Adjustment Extensions Approval - July

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Dear Anthea,

Thank you for your email on July 22, 2020. Your request to extend the following adjustments has been approved through July 31, 2020:

Extend Certification Periods and Adjust Reporting Requirements – COV-001
Adjustment for Initial Certification and Recertification Interviews – COV-090

All terms and conditions outlined within the previously approved adjustment(s) apply. Please note, the evaluation report deadline remains 45 days after the end of the adjustments. Data only needs to be provided once per adjustment, regardless of the duration of the waiver.

As noted in our previous email, FNS will approve extensions beyond August on an extremely limited basis. In order to receive an extension beyond August, a State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which the State is requesting the adjustment and provide data that demonstrates that the adjustment continues to be warranted given the current circumstances in the State. FNS expects requests include data on substantial increases in new applications in recent months (e.g. July and August for September adjustment), sizable increases in a backlog of case actions or applications, or a significant decrease in staffing capacity due to COVID-19, among other supporting information. States are expected to reasonably adjust to changing circumstances, including caseload growth, and FNS will not approve requests where the data is merely comparable with the State agency's data from non-COVID-19 circumstances in which FNS was working with the State under a corrective action plan. These requests should also include plans to return to a new normal in a short time frame. States must submit these requests by the 10th day the month before the adjustment would take effect with a response due back from FNS to the State by the 15th. Because approvals for adjustments beyond August will be extremely limited, States should make arrangements to ensure they are able to return to their new normal by September 1, 2020.

We understand the Mayor plans to extend the State of Emergency, however without an official extension into August, we cannot approve the above waivers for August at this time. As soon as the State of Emergency is extended, please let us know.

We stand ready to provide technical assistance and answer any of your questions.

Thank you,



Dave Gagliardi, Branch Chief/Regional Disaster Coordinator
SNAP, Program Operations
FNS, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office

From: Seymour, Anthea (DHS) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 9:17 AM
To: Gagliardi, David - FNS [REDACTED]; Ratchford, Eric - FNS [REDACTED]; Jenkins, Bill - FNS [REDACTED]
Cc: Drake, Carla (DHS) [REDACTED]; Ribar, Michael (DHS) [REDACTED]; Hayes, Alyssa - FNS [REDACTED]; Alphe-Igiehon, Geraldine - FNS [REDACTED]; Boger, Kelly - FNS [REDACTED]; Jacober-Brown, Sally - FNS [REDACTED]; Dombroski, Patricia - FNS [REDACTED]; Limbacher, Diana - FNS [REDACTED]; SM.FN.SNAP-PDD-COVID [REDACTED]
Subject: COVID-19 DC July and August Adjustment Extensions

Good morning, David, The District is requesting the following adjustments for the month of **July** (see attached the District's Public Health Emergency Declaration which go through July 24).

- DC COV-001: Extend Certification Periods and Adjust Reporting Requirements
- DC COV-090: Adjustment for Initial Certification and Recertification Interviews

In addition, the District is requesting the above adjustments for the month of **August**. The District's Mayor is expected to execute an extension of the District's Public Health Emergency Declaration this week. We will forward the extended declaration at that time but see below the link from an announcement - *"D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said she plans to extend the city's state of emergency through early October."*

<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/coronavirus-in-dc-maryland-virginia-what-to-know-on-july-15/2361952/>

We appreciate our ongoing partnership and support with FNS during this time.

Thanks

Anthea

Anthea Seymour | Administrator | Department of Human Services, Economic Security Administration [REDACTED]

From: Gagliardi, David - FNS [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Seymour, Anthea (DHS) [REDACTED]
Cc: Drake, Carla (DHS) [REDACTED]; Ribar, Michael (DHS) [REDACTED]; Hayes, Alyssa - FNS [REDACTED]; Alphe-Igiehon, Geraldine - FNS [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Boger, Kelly - FNS [REDACTED]; Jacober-Brown, Sally - FNS [REDACTED]; Ratchford, Eric - FNS [REDACTED]; Jenkins, Bill - FNS [REDACTED]; Dombroski, Patricia - FNS [REDACTED]; Limbacher, Diana - FNS [REDACTED]; SM.FN.SNAP-PDD-COVID [REDACTED]
Subject: COVID-19 DC July and August Adjustment Extensions

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Good Afternoon Anthea,

While the number of SNAP applications are starting to return to levels similar to before the onset of COVID-19, some States have shared with FNS their ongoing difficulties in handling their increased caseload sizes and reduced operational capacity. These States are struggling to

maintain their responsibility for the administrative functions of operating the program responsibly. FNS strongly believes that it is of the utmost importance to ensure the program is administered appropriately so families receive the proper benefits in a timely fashion and that SNAP program integrity is consistently maintained to ensure public confidence in SNAP administration and use of taxpayer resources.

For States that are struggling, each corresponding regional office continues to provide tailored customer service. To best serve recipients, please do not hesitate to call on our team or your fellow States for best practices and solutions in this dynamic and unprecedented situation.

Based on the recent feedback from some States, combined with the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in some parts of the country, FNS is providing an additional opportunity to seek approval for adjustments to extend certification periods or eliminate the interview, including States agencies that were previously denied for July. FNS hopes that approval of these adjustments during July and August will assist the State as it transitions to its new normal in the fall. State agencies should continue to plan appropriately and make necessary systems changes to return to normal processing.

If your State was previously denied for a July adjustment, or did not apply and is now interested, please respond to the FNS regional office within 3 business days and indicate which adjustments your State is seeking. FNS will respond to your request within 3 business days.

In order to request an extension, your State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which you are requesting the adjustment or waiver. For example, in order to receive an extension for the month of August, the emergency order must extend into some part of August.

Looking ahead, requests for extensions beyond August will be approved on an extremely limited basis. In order to receive an extension beyond August, a State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which the State is requesting the adjustment and provide data that demonstrates that the adjustment continues to be warranted given the current circumstances in the State. States must submit these requests by the 10th day the month before the adjustment would take effect with a response due back from FNS to the State by the 15th.

FNS expects that requests include data on substantial increases in new applications in recent months (e.g. July and August for September adjustment), sizable increases in a backlog of case actions or applications, or a significant decrease in staffing capacity due to COVID-19, among other supporting information. States are expected to reasonably adjust to changing circumstances, including caseload growth, and FNS will not approve requests where the data is merely comparable with the State agency's data from non-COVID-19 circumstances or where FNS was working with the State under a corrective action plan unrelated to COVID-19. These requests should also include plans to return to a new normal in a reasonably short time frame. Because approvals for adjustments beyond August will be extremely limited, States should make arrangements to ensure they are able to return to their new normal by September 1, 2020.

We stand ready to provide technical assistance and answer any of your questions.

Thanks,



Dave Gagliardi, Branch Chief/Regional Disaster Coordinator
SNAP, Program Operations
FNS, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
[REDACTED]

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For the latest information on the District Government's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.