



Food and Nutrition
Service

April 28, 2020

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

Jon M. Anderson
Chief Deputy Division Director
Office of Family Independence
Department of Human Services
2 Peachtree Street, Northwest
19th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: SNAP – Georgia Request to Postpone Acting on Reported Changes Due to COVID-19 – Denial

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter transmits the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) denial of the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) request to adjust Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations at 7 CFR 273.12(a)(1)(i) through (viii)¹; and 7 CFR 273.12(c) by postponing acting on changes reported during the certification period until the next recertification.

As you may be aware, pursuant to section 2302(a)(2) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) (P.L. 116-127), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) may issue adjustments for SNAP flexibilities to States upon request. These adjustments are limited to issuance methods and application and reporting requirements under the Food and Nutrition Act. FNS has determined that suspension of the State agency's responsibility to act on reported changes would not be appropriate at this time, particularly given the significant changes many households are experiencing at this time.

The State may wish to consider requesting or using other adjustments that are allowable under the FFCRA. 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 for waivers and adjustments will also be posted to this webpage.

¹ FNS has noted that the citation 7 CFR 273.12(a)(1)(i) through (viii) does not relate to simplified reporting requirements, but has evaluated this request using the correct citation.

FNS is ready to provide technical assistance to State agencies as they seek to maintain operations and serve clients during the current Public Health Emergency. 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