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March 24, 2020

Dana Platin
Regional Division Director
SNAP
1244 Speer Blvd #903
Denver, CO 80204

Dear Ms. Platin,

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 allows State agencies to plan for temporary emergencies. Included is Missouri's plan for Pandemic Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (P-SNAP) and Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT).

- P-SNAP request allows the State agency flexibility and funding to use with Food Assistance benefits to meet the needs of Missouri citizens and households facing economic hardship as a result of COVID-19.
- P-EBT requests is for SNAP and non-SNAP households with children who have lost free or reduced lunch school meals because schools closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This request lessens the household's burden of providing breakfast and lunch for children who would typically receive federally funded meals (free and reduced breakfast and lunch). The benefits will be issued to an EBT card.

Missouri is requesting that these waivers remain in place as specified in each waiver request. If you have any questions, please contact Gwendolyn Beem at (573) 751-3381 or by email at Gwendolyn.J.Beem@dss.mo.gov.

Sincerely,

Kim R Evans
Director
KE/ks

cc: Melissa Wolf
Gwendolyn Beem

AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

TDD / TTY: 800-735-2966

RELAY MISSOURI: 711

Request to Provide Emergency Allotments (Supplements) to SNAP Households

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

1. Type of Request: Initial

2. Primary Citation: Families First Coronavirus Response Act

3. State: Missouri

4. Proposed Alternative Procedures:

The State proposes to provide an emergency allotment to address temporary food needs to households to bring all households up to the maximum benefit due to pandemic related economic conditions for up to 2 months. Contingent upon the availability of funding and ongoing need, USDA may approve additional months of emergency issuance with an extension request from the State.

These households are eligible for temporary emergency allotments because:

- There is a public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and there is a State-wide emergency or disaster declaration (copy attached); and
- Due to Covid-19 [check all that apply]:
 - Residents of the State are confirmed to have contracted Covid-19
 - Some or all areas of the State are containment or quarantine zones
 - Businesses have closed or significantly reduced their hours
 - The State's residents have experienced economic impacts due to job suspensions or losses
 - The State's residents have been directed to practice social distancing

Issuing Emergency Allotments to Current SNAP Households:

Supplemental emergency allotments would be issued in the following manner:

In March, 2020

— On a single date [specify]: _____

Over a series of days as follows: March 30, March 31, and April 3, 2020

— Staggered as follows: _____

— Other [please explain]: _____

In subsequent months, emergency allotments should be provided in accordance with the State's regular issuance schedule. If a State wants to use a different schedule, explain:

Missouri will release the supplemental benefits with the regular April 2020 pay issuance date which is staggered from the 1st – 22nd, but with disaster supplemental code (DSU) vs regular issuance code (REG).

The State may provide the emergency allotment(s) without contacting the household. While individual notification is not required, States should notify clients consistent with SNAP requirements for mass changes, including notice that emergency allotments will be issued for up to 2 months. Should this schedule change and additional months are approved during the public health emergency, the State will provide a subsequent mass change notice at that time.

Other Requirements: N/A

All emergency allotments will be delivered on the household's EBT card.

The State's SNAP agency also agrees to complete the FNS-292 on a timely basis in accordance with requirements as well as all other normally recurring SNAP reporting included the FNS 46 and 388 reports, on a timely basis in accordance with requirements.

In addition, The State agency will submit weekly reports to FNS with the following information for the entire State:

- The value of EA issued.
- The average issuance amount per household.
- The number of households issued EA

Justification for Request: Coronavirus COVID-19, as provided by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

5. Affected Caseload:

One month estimates for existing SNAP households under these procedures:

- Number of households receiving emergency allotments benefits: 312,000
- Amount of emergency allotment benefits issued for one month: \$ \$29,295,000
- Number of months requested (2 month limit) March and April

USDA reserves the right to withdraw or otherwise modify this approval subject to availability of funding

6. Anticipated Implementation Date:

March 30, 2020

7. Signature and Title of Requesting State Agency Official:

Kim R. Evans
Signature

Kim R. EVANS, Director
Print Name and Title

8. Date of Request: 03-24-2020