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May 23, 2020

Jessica Shahin
Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Shahin,

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Section 2302(a)(1) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, allows States to request COVID-19 Emergency Allotment (EA) for households participating in SNAP.

Missouri requests to continue issuing P-SNAP EA for the month of May 2020. This approval is contingent upon Missouri FSD submitting the required information to the FSN Region no sooner than the 15th of each month. FNS will approve EA for each month contingent on the data provided by the State Agency. The State Agency will wait on FNS to acknowledge the required reports before sending EA issuance file(s) to the Electronic Benefits Transfer processor.

Missouri will submit the following data information regarding the EA issuance date(s), estimated number of impacted households and benefit amount each month. Reporting data is submitted to FNS Mountain Plains Region (MPR).

For further information or questions, please contact Gwendolyn J 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

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United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Month-To-Month Contingent Approval to Continue Issuing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Emergency Allotments (EA) Benefits under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020

Section 2302(a)(1) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, allows States to request COVID-19 EA “for households participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program... to address temporary food needs.” The State must support its request with sufficient data, as determined through FNS guidance. A household’s EA cannot increase the current monthly household SNAP benefit allotment beyond “the applicable maximum monthly allotment for the household size.” Accordingly, SNAP households that already receive the maximum monthly allotment for their household size are not eligible for EA.

States that have already received FNS approval for EA issuance in March and April, or April and May, are approved to continue issuing EA benefits each month. This approval to extend these EAs will remain in place **until such a time as the Secretary for Health and Human Services rescinds the public health emergency declaration** that was issued on January 27, 2020, under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act **or the State-issued emergency or disaster declaration expires.**

This approval is contingent upon the State submitting the information below to the FNS Region no sooner than the 15th of each month for the subsequent month and awaiting FNS acknowledgement before sending the Emergency Allotment issuance file(s) to their Electronic Benefits Transfer processor.

Prior to each month of EA issuance, the State shall provide the following information to its FNS Regional SNAP contact(s), who will acknowledge receipt:

State/Territory: Missouri

1. **[MAY]** EA Issuance date(s):

May 2020. Missouri will issue Emergency Allotments (EA) benefit with the regular benefit payroll cycle May 1st through May 22, 2020

(Provide exact dates of planned EA issuance for the month or annotate above if the State will be providing EA benefits in accordance with the State’s regular issuance schedule.)

2. **[MAY]** estimate of the number of households and estimated EA amount:

Number of households receiving emergency allotment benefits: 311,850 (based on March data)

Amount of emergency allotment benefits issued for one month: \$ 33,807,019.00 (based on March data)

3. **Confirmation** that one or more of the following conditions exists 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
And
 The State's emergency or disaster declaration remains active.

All FNS requirements shall remain the same as listed in the initial State approval.

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