

MICHAEL L. PARSON, GOVERNOR • JENNIFER TIDBALL, ACTING DIRECTOR

KIM R. EVANS, DIRECTOR FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION P.O. BOX 2320 • JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-2320 WWW.BSS.MO.GOV • 573-751-3221 • 573-751-0507 FAX

September 28, 2020

Dana Platin
Regional Division Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
1244 Speer Blvd #903
Denver, CO 80204

Dear Ms. Platin,

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 October 2020. This approval is contingent upon Missouri FSD submitting the required information to the FSN Region no sooner than the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. FNS will approve EA for each month contingent on the data provided by the State Agency and the availability of FY21 funds. The State Agency will wait for 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).

The disaster declaration for Missouri is attached and can be found at, <a href="https://www.sos.mo.gov/library/reference/orders/2020/eo12">https://www.sos.mo.gov/library/reference/orders/2020/eo12</a>

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 Dawne Votra

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

TDD / TTY: 800-735-2966 RELAY MISSOURI: 711 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Approval is also contingent upon availability of FY21 funds.

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
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1. [October 2020] EA Issuance date(s):

October 2020, Missouri will issue Emergency Allotment (EA) benefits with the regular benefit payroll cycle beginning October 1 2020 through October 22, 2020. Missouri will not issue any EA benefits for the month of October 2020 before October 1, 2020. In the event that Missouri's State of Emergency is lifted before October 1st, Missouri will not issue benefits and will pull the issues back from our EBT vendor, FIS. New recipients will receive their Supplemental EA bring their allotment to the maximum benefit for their household size within 3 days for authorization of regular SNAP benefit allotment. Ongoing supplemental benefits would be issued with regular payroll cycle issuance.

(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. [October 2020] estimate of the number of households and estimated EA amount:

Based on August 2020

Number of households receiving emergency allotment benefits: 215,337 (353,439)

when households already receiving the max are included)

Amount of emergency allotment benefits issued for one month: \$36,584,192

3. Confirmation that one or more of the following conditions exists due to COVID-19. (Check all that apply):

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender

- X Residents of the State are confirmed to have contracted COVID-19
- X Some or all areas of the State are containment or quarantine zones
- X Businesses have closed or significantly reduced their hours
- X The State's residents have experienced economic impacts due to job suspensions or losses

Attachment

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- $\underline{X}$  The State's residents have been directed to practice social distancing
- And
- X 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.

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel severe acute respiratory illness that is spread through close contact between persons and respiratory transmissions and is highly contagious; and

**WHEREAS**, I have been advised by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the State Emergency Management Agency that there have been numerous confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in this state, and COVID-19 continues to pose a serious health risk for the citizens and visitors of the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the presence and spread of COVID-19, I declared a state of emergency throughout the State of Missouri on March 13, 2020, and issued Executive Order 20-02; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 24, 2020, I extended the state of emergency through June 15, 2020, in Executive Order 20-09; and

**WHEREAS**, I issued Executive Orders 20-04, 20-05, 20-06, and 20-08 during the state of emergency to provide greater flexibility to the State and its residents and provide necessary resources to address the COVID-19 public health threat; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-04 was issued on March 18, 2020, ordering the temporary suspension of certain statutory and regulatory provisions related to telemedicine, and motor carriers, and vested state agencies and executive boards and commissions with authority to waive or suspend statutory or regulatory requirements, subject to my approval, where strict compliance would hinder the State's response to COVID-19, and to ease licensing requirements to eliminate barriers to the provision of health care services and other professions; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 20-05 was issued on March 23, 2020, ordering the temporary suspension of prohibitions on the sale of unprepared foods by restaurants; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-06 was issued on March 26, 2020, ordering and directing the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard, or his designee, to forthwith call and order into active service such portions of the organized militia as he deems necessary to aid the executive officials of Missouri and to protect life and property, and further ordering and directing that the Adjutant General or his designee, and through him, the commanding officer of any unit or other organization of such organized militia so called into active service, take such action and employ such equipment may be necessary in support of civilian authorities, and provide such assistance as may be authorized and directed by the Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, through Presidential Memo #11, issued June 2, 2020, the President of the United States, by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Robert

T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207, and section 502 of title 32, United States Code, extended the activation of the National Guard until August 21, 2020, to continue federal support for the Governors' use to respond to COVID-19 and to facilitate economic recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 20-08 was issued on April 6, 2020, ordering the suspension of the personal appearance requirement for notary publics and authorizing the use of remote electronic notarizations subject to the requirements set forth in the Order; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-10 was issued on May 4, 2020, extending Executive Orders 20-04, 20-05, 20-06, and 20-08 through June 15, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the identification of additional cases in Missouri is likely to continue as we increase our testing capacity. Steps must be taken to prevent a substantial risk to public health and safety as we reopen Missouri's economic and social activity; and

**WHEREAS**, resources of the State of Missouri continue to be needed to combat the public health threat caused by COVID-19 and to aid the recovery phase of the State's response to this emergency; and

WHERAS, an invocation of the provisions of Sections 44.100 and 44.110, RSMo, are still required to ensure the protection of the safety and welfare of the citizens of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of emergency and Executive Orders 20-04, 20-05, 20-06, and 20-08 will expire on June 15, 2020, unless extended in whole or part; and

**WHEREAS**, I find it necessary to extend the state of emergency and to continue and extend Executive Order 20-04, in part, and Executive Orders 20-05, 20-06, and 20-08 in whole.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL L. PARSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Missouri declare that a state of emergency continues to exist in the State of Missouri and direct the Missouri State Emergency Operations Plan to continue to remain activated.

I extend the provisions, in whole, of Executive Orders 20-05, 20-06, and 20-08.

Executive Order 20-08, related to notary services, shall terminate on August 28, 2020, unless extended in whole or in part.

I also extend the order to the Adjutant General of the State of Missouri, to forthwith call and order into active service such portions of the organized militia as he deems necessary to aid the executive officials of Missouri, to protect life and property contained in Executive Order 20-06, extended by Executive Order 20-10. Executive Order 20-06 shall terminate on September 15, 2020, unless extended in whole or in part.

I also extend, in part, the provisions in Executive Order 20-04. I hereby terminate the suspension of provisions of subsection 3 of section 161.210, RSMo, and 5 CSR 20-400.330, 500-560, 590-610, and 640 relating to teacher certification with regard to qualifying scores on exit examinations and culminating clinical experience in terms of semester hours, weeks, and number of placements. All other provisions in Executive Order 20-04 remain in full force and effect.

The remaining provisions of this Order shall terminate on December 30, 2020, unless extended in whole or part.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, on this 11 day of June, 2020.

[Michael L. Parson's signature] MICHAEL L. PARSON GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

[Jay Ashcroft's signature] JOHN R. ASHCROFT SECRETARY OF STATE

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