



Food and Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

September 2, 2020

Karmela Martinez
Income Support Division
Human Services Department
1474 Rodeo Road
Santa Fe, NM 87504

RE: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – New Mexico
Adjustment Request for Periodic Report Flexibility for Non-Extended
Recertification Cases – Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Denial

Dear Ms. Martinez:

This letter is in response to New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) request to adjust SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.14(b)(2) through (4), which require State agencies to develop an application to be used by households when applying for recertification, use certain verification procedures at recertification, interview households as part of the recertification process.

FNS recognizes that the State is facing workload challenges at this time due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. However, based on the data submitted by the State, FNS is denying this request because the adjustment is not necessary to be consistent with what is practicable under actual conditions in the State. FNS would like to work with the State agency in moving to operations that are consistent with SNAP regulations.

FNS stands ready to provide technical assistance and will consider future requests for adjustments if circumstances in the State change, such as a spike in new applications, or the general workload increases, and sufficient data is provided to support these flexibilities during the public health emergency. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact your respective Regional Office representative.

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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 of waivers and adjustments related to COVID-19 will also be posted to this webpage.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Director
Program Development Division
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program