Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314 Rebecca McAtee
FoodShare Director

Department of Health Services 1 West Wilson Street PO Box 309

Madison, Wisconsin 53701

RE: SNAP – Wisconsin Request to Extend Certification Periods and Adjust Reporting Requirements Due to COVID-19 – Extension – Denial (2nd Resubmission – September through December 2020)

Dear Ms. Seymour:

August 31, 2020

This letter transmits the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) denial of the District of Columbia Department of Human Services (DHS) adjustment request (COV-126) to continue to extend certification periods and adjust periodic reporting requirements for ongoing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households statewide from September through December 2020.

FNS appreciates the additional data the State provided to demonstrate the need for the adjustment and recognizes that the State is facing challenges in processing ongoing cases for recertification at this time due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. However, based on the data submitted by the State, FNS does not find that an extension of the adjustment is necessary to be consistent with what is practicable under actual conditions in the State. For similar reasons, FNS also denies the State agency's request to adjust the periodic reporting requirements of section 6(c)(1)(D)(i) of the Act, and SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.10(f)(1) and 7 CFR 273.12(a)(5)(iii)(B) for ongoing households in July through August 2020. FNS would like to work with the State agency on a transition plan that moves the State forward toward operations that are consistent with certification provisions of section 3(f) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (the Act) and SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.10(f)(5) for cases with certification periods from September through December 2020.

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.

FNS stands ready to provide technical assistance and will consider future requests for adjustments in subsequent months if circumstances in the State change, such as a spike in new applications or general workload increases, and sufficient data is provided to support these flexibilities during the public health emergency.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact your respective Regional Office representative.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal Program Development Division Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program