

Food and Nutrition
Service

May 18, 2020

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

SUBJECT: Extension Approval of Disaster Household Distribution in Response to the National Emergency Declaration Due to COVID-19

TO: Jesus Mendoza
Regional Administrator
Western Regional Office

This memorandum is in response to the Washington State Department of Agriculture's (WSDA) request to extend its use of U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foods to operate disaster household distribution beyond its initial approved end date of May 15, 2020. This request is in response to food assistance needs resulting from the COVID-19 National Emergency declared by the President of the United States on March 13, 2020.

WSDA requested that USDA extend its initial approval to use USDA Foods from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for disaster household distribution. WSDA is approved to continue the utilization of the same distribution methods to provide food assistance for a cumulative total, not to exceed 894,004 individuals, over the course of the 30-day approval period.

An extension is granted for disaster household distribution beginning May 18, 2020 through June 16, 2020. WSDA is authorized to use the previously approved disaster household distribution food package to continue providing food assistance to impacted households. WSDA must also follow the same Terms of Approval as stated in the original approval letter dated April 16, 2020, to include but not limited to weekly reporting of:

- 1) the amount of TEFAP inventory used for disaster household distributions, and
- 2) the number of persons served under the disaster household distribution.

Should WSDA need additional assistance, other resources may be available through FEMA, <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/12/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-purchase-and-distribution-food-eligible-public>, and through other USDA programs such as USDA Farmers to Families, <https://www.ams.usda.gov/publications/content/farmers-families-food-box-program-faqs>.

Please have WSDA contact the FNS Western Regional Office for more information should they have any questions regarding this approval.



Diane M. Kriviski
Deputy Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs