

DATE: September 9, 2025

POLICY NO: FD-162: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

SUBJECT: Public Posting of TEFAP Information

TO: Regional Directors

Supplemental Nutrition Programs

State Directors

All TEFAP State Agencies

Under the leadership of Secretary Brooke Rollins, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is committed to strengthening strategies to encourage healthy choices, healthy outcomes, and healthy families, along with clarifying program requirements for our State agency partners. In support of these goals, this memorandum provides guidance to TEFAP State agencies on requirements for public posting of TEFAP information at 7 CFR 251.4(I). Each State agency must post a list of eligible recipient agencies (ERAs) that have an agreement with the State agency on a publicly available webpage. In addition, State agencies must post the State's uniform Statewide eligibility criteria on a publicly available webpage. The public posting of ERAs and uniform Statewide eligibility criteria must be implemented by October 31, 2025. State agencies are encouraged to implement these provisions before that deadline.

ERAs that have an Agreement with the State Agency

TEFAP regulations at <u>7 CFR 251.4(I)</u> require each State agency to post a list of ERAs that have an agreement with the State agency on a publicly available webpage. At a minimum, this list must include the name, address, and contact telephone number of all ERAs that have an

agreement with the State agency. State agencies must update this list annually but are encouraged to update it more frequently as needed.

FNS recognizes that State agencies may identify a compelling public safety reason to forgo posting an ERA address publicly; for example, for a domestic abuse shelter. In such circumstances and without divulging sensitive or confidential information, the State agency should submit general information to their FNS Regional Office regarding why the location should be exempted from the publicly available list posted online. FNS will work with State agencies on a case-by-case basis for ERAs in this situation.

State Agency Option to Post Additional ERA Information

State agencies may choose to exceed the above minimum posting requirements to support public awareness. While State agencies are not required to post information about ERAs that have agreements with other ERAs, States have the option to publish this information online. State agencies may also choose to include additional information about ERAs on the webpage, such as operating hours, the areas served by the ERA, links to ERA websites, and distribution site addresses. In addition, State agencies may develop tools to aid eligible individuals in accessing the program, for example by establishing a searchable tool to identify aid based on zip code.

Posting TEFAP Statewide Eligibility Information

TEFAP regulations at <u>7 CFR 251.5(b)</u> require each State agency to establish uniform Statewide criteria for determining the eligibility of households to receive USDA Foods for home consumption, including requirements for demonstrating income and residency. Per <u>7 CFR 251.4(l)</u>, State agencies must post this uniform Statewide eligibility criteria to a publicly available webpage. This information must be updated on an annual basis or whenever

changes to eligibility criteria are made. Additional guidance on establishing criteria and methods for determining the eligibility of households to receive TEFAP can be found in Participant Eligibility in TEFAP (revised).

State agencies should contact their respective FNS Regional Office with any questions.

/Original Signature on File/

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Director

Policy Division

Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs