

**DATE:** March 9, 2018

**TO:** Subscribers

**SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION:** Commissioners, TA and SNAP Directors

**FROM:** Jeffrey Gaskell, Assistant Deputy Commissioner  
Employment and Income Support Programs

**SUBJECT:** Loss of Food – March Storms

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**CONTACT PERSON:** SNAP Bureau at: 518-473-1469; TA Bureau at: 518-474-9344

Due to the recent severe weather across the State, we are issuing this GIS to clarify the Temporary Assistance (TA) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) policies that local districts must have in place to deal with loss of food due to crisis situations, including loss of electricity.

### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

To assist individuals who experience food loss due to storm damage and/or resulting power outages, this GIS provides local districts with the intranet link to the updated 7/16 version of the LDSS-2291: *Request for Replacement of Food Purchased with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits*. This form must be used when there is a request for replacement of food purchased with SNAP benefits. It can be accessed at: [http://otda.state.ny.net/ldss\\_eforms/eforms/2291.pdf](http://otda.state.ny.net/ldss_eforms/eforms/2291.pdf)

The SNAP Source Book Section 11 provides direction on replacement of food purchased with SNAP benefits. An issuance of SNAP benefits to replace food which was purchased with SNAP benefits but subsequently destroyed in a household misfortune must be made, provided that:

- a. The household reports the loss within 10 days of the date of the misfortune; and,
- b. The household returns a signed and completed form [LDSS-2291](#) *Request for Replacement of Food Purchased With Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits* within 10 days of the date of the report of loss. If the 10 day falls on a weekend or holiday, a statement received the day after the weekend or holiday is acceptable.

### **Temporary Assistance (TA)**

Local districts can provide Emergency Temporary Assistance to those individuals and families whose food has spoiled due to the power outage, who are not eligible for SNAP benefits and who are in an immediate need situation. The amount is normally a prorated portion (for the number of days of need) of the non-shelter portion of the household's standard of need (Basic, HEA and SHEA). The household must meet all other eligibility factors as specified in the Temporary Assistance Source Book (chapter 10, section I for ESNA or chapter 11, section C for EAF.) Local districts that anticipate mass requests for such assistance may use the LDSS-880 "Register of Application and Authorization for Emergency Assistance." Persons unable to prepare food at home may also be eligible for a prorated portion of the restaurant allowance granted in accordance with 18 NYCRR Parts 352.7(c). For more information on meeting emergency needs see [02 ADM-02](#) "Meeting the Emergency /Immediate Needs of Temporary Assistance (TA) Applicants/Recipients".