

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
Center for Employment & Economic Supports

October 18, 2013

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TO: Subscribers

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Commissioners, TA Directors, SNAP Directors, HEAP Coordinators

FROM: Phyllis Morris, Deputy Commissioner
Center for Employment and Economic Supports

SUBJECT: End of Federal Government Shutdown

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT:

TA Questions: TA Bureau at 1-800-343-8859, extension 4-9344

SNAP Questions: SNAP Bureau at 1-518-473-1469

HEAP Questions: HEAP Bureau at 1-800-343-8859, extension 3-0332

SSI Questions: SSI State Supplement Program Bureau at 1-800-343-8859, extension 8-4757

Congress approved legislation on October 16, 2013 which allowed the federal government to re-open on October 17, 2013 and to operate through January 15, 2014.

Authority and funding for the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) have been extended through January 15, 2014, retroactive to October 1, 2013. November SNAP benefits will be authorized via EBT on the normal staggered issuance schedule.

As the Social Security Administration's (SSA) social security card centers are now open, individuals applying for Temporary Assistance, SNAP and/or early outreach 2013-14 HEAP benefits on and after October 17, 2013 who are unable to provide a Social Security Number (SSN) must provide verification that an SSN has been applied for from the SSA. Applicants or recipients who were provided good cause between October 1, 2013 and October 16, 2013 must provide the required verification at the next client contact.

Districts should continue to receive and process early outreach applications for the 2013-14 HEAP season. An LCM with more information will be issued prior to the opening of the regular benefit component of the 2013-14 HEAP season.