



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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General Information System (GIS) Message

Section 1

Transmittal:	21 TA/DC063 Upstate and New York City
Date:	September 17, 2021
To:	Subscribers
Suggested Distribution:	Commissioners, SNAP Directors, TA Directors, WMS Coordinators
From:	Alison Maura, Director of Temporary Assistance and HEAP Employment and Income Support Programs
Subject:	Hurricane Ida Disaster-Related Waivers for New York City, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties
Effective Date:	Immediately
Contact Information:	SNAP & Field Operations Bureau, (518) 473-1469 otda.sm.cees.snap@otda.ny.gov
Attachments:	N/A

Section 2

The purpose of this GIS is to advise local social services districts (districts) that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) has approved two waivers, requested by New York State, affecting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients in the areas most severely impacted by the flash flooding on September 1, 2021 caused by heavy rains from the remnants of Hurricane Ida.

Hot And Prepared Food Purchase Waiver – This waiver temporarily allows SNAP recipients to purchase hot and prepared foods with SNAP benefits at USDA-authorized SNAP retailers in the following counties that have received federal disaster declarations authorizing Individual Assistance (and New York County/Manhattan which did not receive a declaration authorizing Individual Assistance) due to the damage caused by the September 1, 2021, flash flooding from the heavy rains of Hurricane Ida: **All five boroughs/counties of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester counties.**

The waiver is effective immediately and will remain in effect through Sunday, October 3, 2021. USDA-FNS has notified its authorized retailers in the above areas that they may make changes to their systems and procedures necessary to permit the temporary purchase of hot and prepared foods.

Waiver Extending the Period to Report Loss of Food Purchased with SNAP – Normally households that have lost food purchased with SNAP benefits, due to a household misfortune, have ten days from the date of the onset or occurrence of the misfortune to report the loss of food to the district and request replacement. **USDA-FNS has approved a waiver** for SNAP recipients in the following counties,

extending the reporting period for the loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits, due to the power outages and flash flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida **through Friday, October 1, 2021: All five boroughs/counties of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties.**

Districts are reminded that this extension applies to the period given to report the loss. The household has ten days following the report of loss to file an affidavit attesting to the loss. The [LDSS- 2291](#) can be provided to households for the attestation of loss. It is available on the OTDA website in multiple languages. Embedded here is a link to the English/Spanish version:

https://otda.state.ny.net/ldss_efoms/efoms/2291.pdf

A district has ten days from the date the loss was reported, or two business days from the date the affidavit is provided, whichever is greater, to process the request for replacement.

[Note: Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits are **not** eligible for replacement due to household misfortune.]