



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well
Being

Date: January 02, 2026

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Administrators, Managers and
Supervisors Program Integrity Supervisors and Investigators

Subject: 2026 FNS Application Time Standards Chart

Priority: Information Only

In our continuing efforts to provide caseworkers with timesaving strategies, attached is a copy of the FNS Application Time Standards Chart for 2026. The chart calculates the income base period, 4th, 7th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 60th, 90th calendar days and the 10th working day based on the state holiday schedule. Weekends and holidays are highlighted in gray and state holidays are designated in red. Utilize the chart to eliminate the need for manual calculation to determine the application time standards processing dates.

The chart automatically calculates the 10th business day based on state recognized holidays. Counties that do not observe the same holiday schedule as the State will need to calculate the expiration dates based on their own county's schedule.

We hope this information is beneficial. If you have any questions, please send them to Continuous Quality Improvement Specialist (CQIS) dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Jerquitta Hicks-Smallwood
Assistant Director
Division of Child and Family Well-Being

JHS/vb

Attachment: (1)
2026 FNS Application Time Standards Chart
EFS-FNSEP-01-2026