

ROY COOPER • Governor KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well-Being

June 29, 2022

Dear County Directors of Social Services

- Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Income Maintenance Caseworkers, Managers and Supervisors
- Subject: Timing of June FNS Emergency Allotments
- **Priority:** Information Only

We understand how important Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefits are to North Carolina families, and we are committed to providing these benefits in a timely and efficient manner. We are aware that some FNS customers have been calling state and county DSS offices with questions regarding the timing of receiving their emergency allotments/maximum supplements for June.

Standard FNS EBT benefits for June have been issued to beneficiaries on their typical schedule. We are currently working to process emergency allotments for June, and we expect these benefits will all be issued by June 30th. Emergency allotments typically start being issued by NCDHHS beginning on the 22nd of the month. In the past, the process of distributing those benefits was typically completed within 5-7 days. Recently, NCDHHS provided counties with increased system availability for NC FAST to aid counties in processing the recent influx of applications and recertifications. While increasing system availability, we needed to spread the emergency allotment payments to be staggered over a period of 8-10 days as allowed by our waiver with USDA, instead of the previously expedited 5-7 days.

We expect all FNS emergency allotments for June will be processed by June 30th. For future months of emergency allotments, we also anticipate the staggered issuance of emergency allotments will happen over 8-10 days.

For county DSS staff who may be receiving questions from beneficiaries about the timing of their emergency allotments for June, we recommend sharing the following key messages with FNS beneficiaries:

- Regular FNS benefits for June have been issued on their typical schedule
- Emergency allotments/maximum supplements are typically issued on a staggered basis at the end of the month
- Due to additional system processing demands, emergency allotment payments will be issued over a period of 8-10 days rather than 5-7 days in previous months, and all supplements will be issued by June 30th
- In future months, we anticipate emergency allotments (e.g., for July) will be issued over a period of 8-10 days, starting on the 22nd of the month and being issued over a period of 10 days

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603 MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420 www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265 Important reminder – emergency allotments/maximum supplements are temporary and North Carolina will be required to end them shortly after the ending of the public health emergency (we do not know yet when the public health emergency will end)

More information about emergency allotments/maximum supplements is available here: https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/human-services/changes-food-and-nutrition-services

If you have questions, please submit them to the Continuous Quality Improvement Team (CQI) <u>dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Madhu Vulimini

Madhu Vulimiri, MPP Deputy Director Division of Child and Family Well-Being

Carled West

Carla West Senior Director for Economic Security Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services

MV/CLW/vd

EFS-FNSEP-46-2022