

FACT SHEET



Food Assistance Replacement Benefits

When the state or an area within the state experiences a disaster (such as fire, flooding or a power outage) that lasts four or more hours, replacement food assistance benefits can be issued to food assistance recipients. The replacement benefits can be used to purchase the same eligible food items as regular food assistance benefits.

In order for replacement benefits to be awarded, households must have experienced a food loss as the result of a disaster or other misfortune. For example, a power outage that lasts a significant amount of time could result in the loss of refrigerated or frozen food items.

Who is eligible for food assistance replacement benefits?

To be eligible, an individual or household must have received food assistance benefits during the month in which the disaster occurred.

How are these benefits provided?

Replacement food assistance benefits are added to recipients' Ohio Direction Cards. To receive the benefits, households must complete form JFS 07222, "Statement Requesting Food Assistance Replacement," within 10 days of the loss and submit it to their county agencies. In the event of large-scale disasters, Ohio may receive permission from the federal government to issue replacement benefits automatically to all eligible households in the affected area. In that case, no forms are required.

How much will each individual receive?

Households that complete a JFS 07222 will receive the amount requested on the form, as long as it does not exceed their monthly allotment. If automatic replacement benefits are issued to everyone within an affected area, the amount is determined based on the date the disaster occurred and the amount of time left in the month.

For More Information

Email TANF-FSTA@jfs.ohio.gov or call (866) 886-3537, option 6. Reporters should direct all inquiries to (614) 466-6650.