



Department of
Job and Family Services

John R. Kasich, Governor
Michael B. Colbert, Director

Family Assistance Letter # 117A
OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE
July 9, 2012

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Trudie J. Bormann, Deputy Director 
Office of Family Assistance

SUBJECT: **Mass Food Assistance Replacements - UPDATE**

On July 6, 2012, ODJFS Office of Family Assistance received written notification from USDA/FNS that **all individual requests for Food Assistance replacement (JFS 7222) must be processed** by the counties for which mass replacement benefits have been issued. Specifically, USDA FNS informed us that:

It is important to note that the issuance of mass replacements does not remove the responsibility of local offices to process affidavits. All affidavits submitted by SNAP recipients that are received within 10 days of the loss whereby the client attests to a greater food loss than the amount of the mass replacement benefit still need to be honored. This includes those affidavits received prior to the approval and implementation of the waiver to issue mass replacement benefits. In those situations, the household is only entitled to receive the amount of food loss they attested to minus the mass replacement benefit amount, not to exceed the maximum monthly allotment for the household. In addition, if a client submits an affidavit timely after receiving the 15 percent mass replacement and attests to an amount lost that is greater than the replacement benefit amount received, the household is only entitled to receive the difference between the amount they attested to minus the mass replacement amount, not to exceed the maximum monthly allotment for the household. In the situation where a client submits an affidavit attesting to a lesser food loss than the amount of the replacement benefit, there is no further action needed.

As a result, all requests for replacement (JFS 7222), regardless of when received, must be processed. Additionally, for any individual who requests a replacement amount greater than the mass replacement benefit, the household is entitled to receive the difference.

10 Day Period

The limit on requesting replacement is 10 days from the date of the loss. Because of the fact that it was unclear we were required to act on all replacement requests, several counties are now requesting an extension of the timeframe to allow individuals to submit

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FATL 117A

Page 2

July 9, 2012

a JFS 7222. For the 34 counties approved through the mass replacement waiver we will submit an additional waiver to USDA/FNS to request an extension of the June 29, 2012 loss through July 12, 2012 and will notify county agencies as soon as a response is received. We recommend you continue to accept individual requests after today; however, you will need to advise the applicant it may be denied should our extension be denied by USDA/FNS.

Again, we apologize for the confusion regarding this process and appreciate your dedication to ensuring that families in need will not unduly suffer from the recent events.

Questions can be sent to Program Policy Services either by email at TANF-FSTA@jfs.ohio.gov or by calling 1-866-886-3537 (option 6).

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