

**DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES
EFS_FNS_AL-7-2018**

Hurricane Florence 2018, Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss

(September 17, 2018)

(Food and Nutrition Services)

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

DATE: September 17, 2018

SUBJECT: Hurricane Florence Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss Waiver

EFFECTIVE: September 17, 2018

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On September 14, 2018, Hurricane Florence brought severe flooding and power outages to several counties across North Carolina. Many families and individuals were directly impacted by Hurricane Florence which forced them to be displaced from their homes. Many county departments of social services offices have been closed and continue to be closed for indefinite periods of time. As a result, Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) recipients are unable to report food loss within the required 10-day timeframe.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved a waiver that allows current FNS recipients who suffered food loss, to report beyond the 10-day timeframe and receive replacement benefits if eligible. Recipients may report food loss and request replacement benefits until October 15, 2018.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

The replacement will be for the amount of the food loss of September 2018 benefits, not to exceed the monthly allotment for that household, after receipt of the signed Replacement Affidavit (DSS-1678). The DSS-1678 must be filed in the household case record. Household's must be allowed to request replacement benefits in their county of residence or the county where they may be residing temporarily. Refer to the NC FAST Job Aide: First click link to [FAST Help](#) and then click link to [Issuing Replacement/Manual Benefits](#)

Submit any questions regarding this information to the Operational Support Team (OST) at DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov To ensure these questions receive priority response, please include "Disaster" in the email subject line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Locklear". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue highlight effect.

David Locklear, Deputy Director
Economic and Family Services