

Food Packages for Homelessness, Migrancy and Disaster Situations Policy No. NS- 210.11

Effective date: October 1, 2016

No. of Pages: 2

Policy

A Competent Professional Authority (CPA) must tailor food packages for homeless and migrant participants and for those in a disaster situation. Alternative packages must only be issued to participants with a documented need for an alternative package. The CPA must reevaluate and assign appropriate food packages when the participant on an alternative package locates to a permanent residence with adequate refrigeration and/or a safe water supply.

Purpose

To provide benefits to participants without a refrigerator, stove, clean water supply and/or a place to store food in a form that accommodates their situation.

Procedures

- I. Local agencies have the option to convert participants to an alternative food package under the following circumstances:
 - A. A participant lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence.
 - B. A participant's primary nighttime residence is:
 1. A publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations.
 2. A temporary accommodation in the residence of another individual.
 3. A public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation.
 - C. A participant's primary residence lacks refrigeration and/or contains a contaminated or limited water supply.
 - D. Disaster situations such as floods, tornadoes, etc., that temporarily displace participants from their normal residences or that result in an unsafe water supply.
- II. CPA can issue Infants ready-to-feed formula or another form as best meets their needs and situation.
- III. CPA should reference the [Food Package Handbook](#) for alternate food package maximum monthly amounts.

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Authority

7 C.F.R. § 246.4(a)(6)

7 C.F.R. § 246.10(b)(1)(ii)

7 C.F.R. §§ 246.10(b)(2)(ii)(C) and (D)

Definitions/Supporting Documentation

Alternative Food Package: Additional food package options available for homeless participants, migrants, and disaster situations which include smaller package sizes, unrefrigerated options and formula not requiring the addition of water.

Competent Professional Authority (CPA) – An individual on the local agency staff who is authorized to determine nutritional risk and prescribe supplemental foods. The following individuals may be authorized and trained to serve as a CPA: physicians, nutritionists (bachelor's or master's degree in Nutritional Sciences, Community Nutrition, Clinical Nutrition, Dietetics, Public Health Nutrition), registered dietitians, licensed dietitians, registered nurses, and physician assistants (certified by the National Committee on certification of Physicians Assistants or certified by the State medical certifying authority), or State or local medically trained health officials.

Homeless Individual: A woman, infant, or child who lacks a fixed and regular night time residence, or whose primary night time residence is: a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including a welfare hotel, a congregate shelter, or a shelter for victims of domestic violence) designated to provide temporary living accommodation; an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; a temporary accommodation in the residence of another individual; or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Migrants: Seasonal farm or agricultural worker or family member who travels from place to place for the purpose of work and such work requires the establishment of temporary residence.

Natural Disaster: An occurrence in nature causing wide spread destruction (e.g., tornado, flood, hurricane, etc.)