

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**  
**DIVISION: Center for Employment & Economic Supports**

**September 7, 2011**

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**TO:** Commissioners; TA & FS Directors; WMS Coordinators; CAP Coordinators

**FROM:** Russell Sykes, Deputy Commissioner, Center for Employment and Economic Supports

**SUBJECT:** Requests for Replacement Food Stamp Benefits

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**CONTACT PERSON:** FS Questions – Food Stamp Policy Bureau (518) 473-1469

### **Purpose**

**The purpose of this GIS is to instruct local districts affected by Hurricane Irene to continue to accept requests for replacement of food stamp benefits until otherwise notified by OTDA.**

### **Background**

In the wake of the flooding, power outages and dislocation caused by Hurricane Irene, there naturally been a large increase in the number of requests for replacement of food stamp benefits due to loss of food.

Under normal Request for Replacement rules, the household must return a signed and completed form LDSS-2291 *“Request for Replacement of Food Purchased with Food Stamp Benefits”* (Rev 8/03) within 10 days of the date of the report of loss. If the 10th day falls on a weekend or holiday, a statement received the first business day after the weekend or holiday is acceptable.

**Due to the extraordinary circumstances created by Hurricane Irene and the continuing flooding, OTDA has requested permission from USDA for an extension of the normal 10-day filing period. We have not yet received a formal response to this waiver request.**

### **Food Stamp Replacement Request Policy**

See 11 GIS TA/DC018, dated September 2, 2011 for further details. Here is the link

<http://otda.state.nyenet/dta/GIS/11dc018.pdf>