

SECTION: Administrative Policies and Practices

SUBJECT: Local Agency Requirements

ITEM: Redeeming Food Instruments during a Disaster

Purpose

To allow additional time for participants to use their food instruments during a disaster.

Policy

During a disaster the State Agency (SA) may extend the "Last Day to Use" date on the food instruments (FIs) by up to 10 days.

Authority

Federal Instructions: "WIC Disaster Policy and Coordination" 800-H, March 2, 1995.

Procedure

The local agency shall contact their regional advisor and inform him/her of the disaster and request the extension.

The SA may extend the "Last Day to Use" date on the food instruments by up to 10 days, during a disaster.

Criteria

The policy may be implemented during disasters when the following conditions are present:

- I. participants were issued FIs before or during a disaster, and
- II. participants are unable to redeem the FIs because:
 - A. WIC authorized vendors are closed due to a disaster;
 - B. there is no access to a WIC authorized vendor due to transportation problems;

- C. it is unsafe for participants to go to a WIC authorized vendor; or
- D. any other disaster situation where the participants are unable to redeem food instruments at a WIC authorized vendor.