



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Jeb Bush
Governor

Lucy D. Hadi
Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2005

**DCF ANNOUNCES
DISASTER FOOD STAMP APPLICATION SITES**

Three sites to begin accepting applications Tuesday

TALLAHASSEE – The Department of Children & Families on Tuesday will begin accepting applications for Disaster Food Stamp Program benefits in Escambia, Okaloosa and Santa Rosa counties. The program, launched in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is intended to assist residents of the three counties recover from Hurricane Dennis.

A list of the four application center locations, and days and hours of operation is attached.

To qualify for benefits applicants must have suffered damage to their homes or self-employment property or have experienced a loss of income or additional expenses as a result of the storm. Applicants also must not exceed income limits.

Benefits are based on family size. One person is eligible for \$149 in Disaster Food Stamp benefits. A family of four is eligible for \$499.

Eligible individuals and families will be mailed Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards to use at authorized U.S.D.A. food retailers. DFS benefits are good for 90 days from the date of issuance and must be used during that time.

More information on the Disaster Food Stamp program is available at **1-866-762-2237**.

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1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery

DISASTER FOOD STAMP PROGRAM APPLICATION CENTERS

<u>County</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Hours (CST)</u>
Escambia	Belleview Middle School	6201 Mobile Hwy. Pensacola	7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. All days
Escambia	Century Service Center	7600 Mayo St. Century	7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday only
Okaloosa	Okaloosa-Walton Community College Building 8 (Auditorium)	1170 MLK Jr. Blvd. Ft. Walton Beach	7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. All days
Santa Rosa	W.H. Rhodes Elementary School	5563 Byrom St. Milton	7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. All days