

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

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

For Immediate Release
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FOOD STAMPS CAN NOW BUY HOT MEALS

Rule change for Dennis applies to Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa counties

TALLAHASSEE – The Department of Children and Families, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, today announced that Food Stamp recipients in Escambia, Okaloosa and Santa Rosa counties impacted by Hurricane Dennis may use their benefits to purchase hot prepared foods through August 31. This temporary change in the Food Stamp program rules for the residents of the three counties will assist people who lost their homes and cooking supplies as a result of the hurricane.

The rule change applies to participants of both the regular Food Stamp and Disaster Food Stamp programs in the three counties.

The food must be purchased from authorized USDA Food and Nutrition Service retailers. Retailers in the affected counties have been notified of the exception to program rules.

DCF requested and received a waiver of federal regulations from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to allow these purchases.

Recipients with questions may call 1-866-762-2237.

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