Food Distribution
National Policy Memorandum

United States Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition Service

3101 Park Center Drive

Alexandria, VA 22302-1500

DATE: February 10, 2005

POLICY NO: FD-041: Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

SUBJECT: Distribution of TEFAP Commodities to Children

This memorandum provides guidance on the distribution of TEFAP commodities to children through Kids Cafes or similar programs. In general, eligible recipient agencies (ERAs) can provide TEFAP commodities to a child provided the child's household is certified as eligible for TEFAP commodities and proper distribution records are maintained by the ERA.

Section 251.5(a)(1) of the Emergency Food Assistance Program regulations states that: *"Organizations distributing commodities to households for home consumption must limit the distribution of commodities provided under this part to those households which meet the eligibility criteria established by the State agency."* Therefore, an ERA must determine that the child's household has been certified as eligible to participate in TEFAP based on the State's eligibility criteria prior to providing a child TEFAP commodities. In addition, in accordance with Policy Memorandum FD-036, the ERA must keep a record, for each day on which they distribute food, of the names of all households that receive food.

In accordance with Section 251.6(c) of the regulations, prior to permitting ERAs to distribute TEFAP commodities to children, a State agency must review its Distribution Plan and, if necessary, submit an amendment to the Plan to the appropriate FNSRO for approval.

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