



February 9, 2023

Food Assistance Change Transmittal No. 93

TO: All Food Assistance Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

SUBJECT: **Ending of Emergency Allotments**

**Background:**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) became law on March 18, 2020 and allowed states to request emergency allotments (EA) “for households participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program...to address temporary food needs.”

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has been issuing EAs to assistance groups (AG) beginning March 2020 and ongoing until such a time as either the federal public health emergency declaration is rescinded or Ohio’s state of emergency ends.

**Update:**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (H.R. 2617) was signed into law on December 29, 2022, and outlines that the authority under FFCRA for EAs to be issued through the month following the end of the public health emergency is to be rescinded. Therefore, the authority to issue EAs expires after the issuance of the February 2023 EAs.

***This means that February 2023 will be the last issuance of EAs for SNAP households.*** SNAP EA benefits cannot be issued for March 2023 or any month thereafter; however, county agencies may retroactively issue EAs for the months of March 2020 to February 2023 that were not issued previously. For example, when an application dated 2/27/23 is approved on 3/5/23, the county agency should issue the EA for February but not March.

**Implementation:**

ODJFS has developed a notice to AGs explaining this change in addition to a communication campaign. EAs have been issued to SNAP AGs as a separate issuance closer to the end of each month. The notice and all other communications from ODJFS explain that AGs will continue to receive their regular SNAP benefit on their normal issuance date between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month and that only the SNAP benefit they have been receiving at the end of each month will stop after February 2023. March 2023 will be the first month EAs are not issued.

There are no fair hearing rights or fair hearing benefits on the ending of the SNAP emergency allotments because this is a federal law change.

If you have any questions regarding any of these changes, please contact Program Policy and Systems at [OFA-PPS@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:OFA-PPS@jfs.ohio.gov).