



Food and Nutrition
Service

January 23, 2023

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

**SPECIAL DISASTER RULES FOR ACCEPTING
SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)
EBT BENEFITS
FOR HOT FOOD PURCHASES**

Due to severe winter storms, power outages and flooding, and effective immediately, **retail food stores** licensed by the Food and Nutrition Service and **located in the following California counties** may accept SNAP benefits in exchange for HOT foods and foods intended to be consumed on retailer premises:

Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Ventura, and Yolo

These special rules are in effect through February 20, 2023.

When hot foods are purchased with SNAP EBT benefits through **February 20, 2023**, the purchases are NOT subject to sales tax, as the foods mentioned above are considered SNAP eligible during this period.

We encourage all SNAP authorized retail food stores in the above counties to post a special notice in the store letting SNAP customers know that they can use their SNAP EBT benefits to purchase hot foods and, where practical, may remain on the premises to consume those foods. Thank you for your assistance in aiding those impacted by the severe winter storms.