

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: April 10, 2026

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 26-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

Sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section name below.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Edits in the *Total gross income (before deductions) for all household members* section to clarify that applicants who are categorically eligible are not required to provide income information to apply for program benefits.
- Edits throughout to update TDA email to SquareMeals@TexasAgriculture.gov. (Multiple sections.)

Section 4, USDA Foods

- Edits in *Activities Unrelated to USDA Foods* section to clarify that information related to religious activity is permissible in CSFP containers.

Section 6, Civil Rights

- Edit in introduction to remove outdated reference to FNS Instruction 113-1 (no highlight).

Section 7, Financial Management

- Edit to the *Simplified Acquisition Threshold* section to reflect that the federal simplified acquisition purchase threshold is \$350,000.
- Edits throughout to reflect micro-purchase threshold increase to \$15,000.
- Edit in *Civil Rights Statement* section to remove outdated reference to FNS Instruction 113-1.

The *CSFP Handbook* is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site at <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

If you previously downloaded and saved a copy of the *CSFP Handbook* or any section(s) on your computer, delete and replace them with a downloaded copy of the revised section(s) or revised handbook in its entirety.

TDA does not require you to print a copy of the *CSFP Handbook*. During a review, TDA will verify that that you and your employees know how to access the handbook online. TDA will not, however, verify whether you possess a printed copy of the handbook.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: September 29, 2025

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 25-02

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

Sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section name below.

Section 2, Program Application

- Edit in *Debarment Certification* section to reflect that the small-purchase threshold is now \$100,000.
- Edit in *Visit Prior to Approval of Initial Applications and Renewals* section to clarify TDA may conduct a prior-approval visit of a prospective CE's facilities before approving an application to participate in the program.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Edits in *Sites* section to clarify the process for maintaining and submitting a site list and to remove a reference to an outdated reference to the site information form.
- Edits in *Filing and Submitting Claims* section to update the user access form number and to remove outdated references to TX-UNPS.
- Edits in *Other Public Assistance Programs* section to clarify that seniors should be informed, either by electronic means or with printed materials, of other assistance programs in the area, to clarify that CSFP participants must be provided with written information about the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, and to add web links for information about the listed programs.
- Edit in *Sites Located at Religious Organizations* section to clarify that religious sites are not required to remove printed materials or symbols from areas where food distributions occur.
- Edit in *CSFP and Explicitly Religious Activities* section to remove prohibition on inserting faith-based pamphlets into food packages.
- Edit in the *Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights* section to clarify that while providing the beneficiary rights is no longer required at distribution, the written rights **must** be provided to each participant at the time of application.

Section 7, Financial Management

- Edits throughout the *Procurement Methods* section to reflect that TDA's simplified acquisition threshold is now \$100,000 and that the formal procurement process must be followed for goods or services for which the cost equals or exceeds this amount.
- Edit to add *Disposal of Equipment/Supplies* section to outline procedure by which CEs may dispose of equipment or supplies.

Section 9, Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms

- Edit to *Covered contracts* definition to reflect that the small-purchase threshold is now \$100,000.

The *CSFP Handbook* is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site at <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: March 28, 2025

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 25-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

Sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section name below.

NOTE: These revisions were initially released March 7, 2025. Language was added to Section 4 on March 28 to clarify that the frequency of dry storage temperature monitoring must align with the requirements for monitoring cooler and freezer temperatures.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Edit to add list of federal programs which confer categorical eligibility. (Application form also revised accordingly in a separate release.)
- Added requirement that Contracting Entities must notify participants of the availability of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program in the area, if applicable.

Section 4, USDA Foods

- Edit to clarify use of the H1639 Temperature Log Form
- Edit to clarify required dry food storage temperature requirements to avoid related administrative review findings.
- Edits to describe allowable methods for verifying participant identification at distribution.

Section 5, Visits, Reviews, and Audits

- Edits to reflect the increase of the single audit threshold rate to \$1,000,000.
- Edit to reflect the increase of the de minimis indirect cost rate to 15%.

Section 7, Financial Management

- Edit to describe capital expenditure approval request process.
- Edits to clarify equipment inventory recordkeeping requirements.
- Edit to reflect the increase of the equipment definition cost threshold to \$10,000.

Section 10, Disaster Policies and Procedures

- Edits to reflect that dual participation in D-SNAP and DHD is now permitted.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: July 26, 2024

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 24-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

Sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section name below.

Section 2, Program Application

- Edit to clarify TX-UNPS is used for CE application and claim processing and not ordering.
- Edit to clarify that only new CEs need to sign a permanent agreement with TDA during the initial application process.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Added that a Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights must be provided to all participants and applicants at all sites, the required elements of the Notice, the options for providing the Notice, and the requirement that CEs' written application procedures must describe how the CE will provide the Notice to participants and applicants.

Section 5, Visits, Reviews, and Audits

- Edit to correct a broken link in a footnote for the item describing how to determine the value of USDA Foods for audit purposes.

Section 9, Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms

- Edit to clarify definition of resident.
- Edit to remove reference to ordering in definition of TX-UNPS.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: December 19, 2023

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 23-03

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to section of the *CSFP Handbook*

A section of the *CSFP Handbook* was revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section name below.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Removed an outdated reference to the *Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights* form as a requirement in CE written application procedures.
- Clarified that CEs may request additional data during the application process but may not allow this to be a barrier to participation.

The *CSFP Handbook* is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site at <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: October 6, 2023

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 23-02

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

Sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and to reflect the most recent policy guidance. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the section names below.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Removed requirements for sites operated by religious organizations to display a *Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights* and to provide a referral to an alternate site to participants who object to the religious character of the site. These changes reflect the removal of these requirements from 7 CFR 16.

Section 6, Civil Rights

- Updated the Complaints section to better explain how Contracting Entities should process Civil Rights complaints, along with notification requirements to USDA and TDA.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: July 25, 2023

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 23-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to all sections of the *CSFP Handbook*

All sections of the *CSFP Handbook* were revised for clarity and ease of use. Significant revisions to content and guidance are noted under the new section names below.

All sections underwent the following style and format changes:

- Reformatted font for readability.
- Rewrote some text for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Removed the heading numbering sequence for readability.
- Updated broken URLs and hyperlinks.

Several sections were merged, and all sections were renumbered as outlined under the new section names below. The following sections were removed, and information within was reorganized into other sections as applicable:

- Section 10000, Email Notification and CSFP Handbook Online
- Section 11000, Resources
- Section 12000, Frequently Asked Questions

Section 1, Introduction

- Previously Section 1000, Introduction.
- Edit to remove obsolete reference to pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children.
- Edit to remove obsolete reference to Texas Administrative Code
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 2, Program Application

- Section 2000, Eligibility and Application Requirements and Section 3000, Program Agreement were combined into one new section.
- Edit to add definitions of contracting entity, site, subdistributing agency, and subagency.
- Edit to explain UEI request system which replaces DUNS numbering system.
- Edit to add item describing agreement between CE and subdistributing agency.
- Edit to add item clarifying agreement requirements between CE and TDA.

- Edit to clarify an authorized representative must be an employee of CE.
- Edit made to remove outdated reference to retroactive budget amendments.
- Edit to remove outdated item describing agreements between TDA and non-food bank contracting entities.
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 3, Managing the Program

- Previously Section 4000, Managing the Program. Section 4000 was split into two sections. Information regarding program administration (including training, monitoring, claims and caseload management), enrolling and certifying participants, participant rights and responsibilities, and program documentation was combined into the new Section 3, Managing the Program.
- Edit to add graphic describing program structure.
- Edits to add definition of contracting entity and to list the sources of program requirements for CEs.
- Edits to add definitions of contracting entity, subdistributing agency and subagency.
- Edits to Training item under Program Administration to clarify methods and associated record keeping.
- Edits to Monitor Reviews by Contracting Entities item to clarify frequency, areas of compliance to be reviewed, and requirements associated with any corrective action.
- Edit to revise reference to Form FND-101 to Form FND-135.
- Edit to add Identifying Costs Separately item to clarify contents of claim submittals.
- Edit to add item describing CE budget.
- Edit to add description of FNS-153 Monthly Report.
- Edit to clarify caseload management procedures.
- Edits to clarify participant application procedures.
- Edits to clarify record retention period.
- Edits to clarify types of records subject to administrative review.
- Edit to remove outdated Statistics by County item.
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 4, USDA Foods

- Previously Section 4000, Managing the Program. Section 4000 was split into two sections. Information regarding the handling and storage of USDA Foods was combined into the new Section 4, USDA Foods.
- Edit to reflect shipment receipts are now entered by CEs into WBSCM.
- Edit to include the Temperature Chart for food storage, previously in Section 11000, Resources.
- Edit to add item describing proper reporting of inventory levels.
- Edit to add item describing inventory transfer process.
- Edit to add item describing payment of costs responsibility.
- Edits made to clarify process for reporting food losses.
- Edits made to clarify notification process for holds and recalls.

- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 5, Visits, Reviews, and Audits

- Previously Section 5000, Visits, Reviews, and Audits.
- Edits made to revise references to compliance reviews to administrative reviews.
- Edits made to clarify annual storage review and inventory process.
- Edit made to clarify record retention period.
- Edit made to revise references to corrective action plans to corrective action documents.
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 6, Civil Rights

- Previously Section 6000, Civil Rights.
- Edit to remove redundant reference to complaint form.
- Edit to clarify online location of civil rights training.
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 7, Financial Management

- Previously Section 7000, Financial Management.
- Edits to updated 2 CFR 200 citations.
- Edits to reflect revised process by which CE submits an approval/review request for an emergency or sole source procurement.
- Edit to clarify length of records retention requirement.
- Edit to clarify request for approval process for not selecting lowest bid.
- Edit to remove redundant definition of equipment.
- Edit to clarify that cell phone expenses are only reimbursable if the phone contract is in the name of the CE.
- Edit to clarify capital expenditures allowability.
- Edit to add item providing additional funding guidance.
- Other edits and revisions made to improve clarity.

Section 8, Denials, Terminations, and Appeals

- Previously Section 8000, Denials, Terminations, and Appeals
- Now also contains items related to Program Violations and Appeal for Fair Hearing previously in Section 4000.
- Other minor edits made to improve clarity.

Section 9, Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms

- Previously Section 9000, Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms.
- Edit to add definition of authorized representative.
- Edit to add definition of corrective action document.
- Edits to add definitions of direct and indirect costs.
- Edit to clarify definition of physical inventory.
- Edit to add definition of user access manager.

- Edit to add definition of unique entity identifier.
- Edits to add CAD, CI, CY, FMV, PY, UAM, and UEI to acronyms list.
- Edits to add other relevant definitions, to reflect revisions throughout the handbook, and to improve clarity.

Section 10, Disaster Policies and Procedures

- Previously Section 12000, Frequently Asked Questions.
- Combined disaster-related guidance from other sections into this section.
- Other minor edits made to clarify description of disaster distributions.

Since the entire *CSFP Handbook* was revised, this revision replaces the previous version of the handbook and all sections therein.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: November 28, 2022

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 22-02

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 8000

Section 8000, Denials, Terminations, and Appeals

- Revised to update the citation for TDA hearing and appeal procedures found in the Texas Administrative Code.

This revision of Section 8000 replaces the July 2018 version.

NOTE: The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. The text will be reformatted for readability.

- Some portions of the text will be moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text will be rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology will be updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents will aid navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals will be updated.
- Footnotes will provide information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, some internal references may not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the USDA Foods Program Specialist at CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov for help locating information.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: August 3, 2022

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 22-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 6000

Section 6000, Civil Rights

- Revised to insert the new Nondiscrimination Statement provided by USDA, in English and Spanish.

This revision of Section 6000 replaces the December 2020 version.

NOTE: The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. The text will be reformatted for readability.

- Some portions of the text will be moved for context and logical flow.
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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: December 16, 2020

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 20-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 6000

Section 6000, Civil Rights

- Revised outdated web links in the Nondiscrimination Statement.

This revision of Section 6000 replaces the June 2019 version.

NOTE: The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. The text was reformatted for readability.

- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Footnotes now provide information that otherwise would clutter the text.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: November 25, 2019

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 19-03

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 4000 and related Documents

Section 4000, Managing the Program

- Revised Item 4300, Certifying Participants to permit certifications update to three (3) years and an annual validation period when a certification period exceeds one (1) year.
- Other minor revisions made to improve clarity.

This revision of Section 4000 replaces the June 2019 version.

NOTE: The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. The text was reformatted for readability.

- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Footnotes now provide information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, some internal references may not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the USDA Foods Program Specialist at CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov for help locating information.

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In addition to the revisions to the CSFP Handbook, revisions were made to the following CSFP Documents:

Certification Expiration Notice, Instructions and Form

- Reformatted the form and instructions

- Updated consistent with revisions to the Handbook summarized above.

H1504, Participant Application and Instructions

- Reformatted the form and instructions
- Updated consistent with revisions to the Handbook summarized above.

H1509, Temporary Certification and Instructions

- Reformatted the form and instructions
- Updated consistent with revisions to the Handbook summarized above.

H1515, Applicant Notification and Instructions

- Reformatted the form and instructions
- Updated consistent with revisions to the Handbook summarized above.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: June 28, 2019

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 19-02

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 4000 and 6000

Section 4000, Managing the Program

- Revised Item 4200, Enrolling Participants to permit self declaration when applying for program benefits.

Section 6000, Civil Rights

- Revised to reflect the latest policy and guidance.

This revision of Section 4000 replaces the August 2018 version.

This revision of Section 6000 replaces the December 2015 version.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: January 7, 2019

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 19-01

Effective: **January 1, 2019**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 7000

Section 7000, *Financial Management*, of the *CSFP Handbook* has been **revised** to reflect the changes as indicated below.

7311, Micro-Purchase Method – Effective January 1, 2019, the micro-purchase threshold increased from \$3,500 to \$10,000. The increased micro-purchase threshold is only applicable to those procurements conducted on or after January 1, 2019.

This revision of Section 7000 replaces the July 2018 version.

The *CSFP Handbook* is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site at <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: September 10, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-06

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 9000 and 10000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*; and Section 10000, *Email Notification and CSFP Handbook Online*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Footnotes now provide information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, however, references to titles or item numbers might not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the Program Specialist at CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov for help locating information.

Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*

The following term definitions are either new or have been reworded:

- administrative cost
- administrative review official (ARO)
- adverse action
- aggregate
- certification site
- compliance review
- contracting entity
- covered contract

- debarment
- discontinuance
- distribution site
- fair hearing
- fiscal year
- household
- micro-purchase
- monitor review
- nonprofit organization
- participants
- perpetual inventory
- physical inventory
- proxy
- site
- subdistributing agency
- storage site
- wait list

The following acronym was added:

- CE – contracting entity

The following definitions have been deleted as they are no longer used, as defined, within the *CSFP Handbook* or will be removed from the *CSFP Handbook* during future revisions:

- Breastfeeding woman
- child
- contract year
- disqualification
- dual participation
- family
- foster child
- infants
- postpartum woman
- pregnant women

The following acronyms have been deleted as they are no longer used within the *CSFP Handbook* or will be removed from the *CSFP Handbook* during future revisions:

- CY – contract year
- SAO – state auditor’s office

Section 10000, Email Notification and CSFP Handbook Online

This section has been renamed *Email Notification and CSFP Handbook Online*. It was previously titled *Policy Alerts and Notices*. TDA no longer issues Policy Alerts and Notices.

The September 2018 revision of Section 9000 replaces the April 2015 version. The September 2018 revision of Section 10000 replaces the June 2009 version.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: August 16, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-05

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 11000 and 12000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 11000, *Resources*; and Section 12000, *Frequently Asked Questions*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Footnotes now provide information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, however, references to titles or item numbers might not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the Program Specialist at CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov for help locating information.

Changes and Additions
Section 11000

This section was rewritten to remove outdated information and duplicate information.

Changes and Additions
Section 12000

This section was rewritten to remove outdated information and duplicate information.

The August 2018 revision of Section 11000 replaces the August 2011 version. The August 2018 revision of Section 12000 replaces the April 2010 version.

The *CSFP Handbook* is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site at <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

If you download and saved a copy of the *CSFP Handbook* on your computer(s), delete the sections indicated above and replace them with a downloaded copy of the revised section(s) or save a complete handbook which includes the revised section(s) indicated above.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: August 14, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-04

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 4000

Section 4000, *Managing the Program*, of the *CSFP Handbook* has been revised as follows:

4350, The Wait List

- Text in the **Wait List Details** chart was revised to clarify information that must be confirmed when the applicant remains on the wait list fewer than six months.

4430, Certification Extension

- Text was revised to clarify conditions for certification extension.

The August 2018 revision of Section 4000 replaces the June 2018 version.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: July 6, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-03

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 7000 and 8000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 7000, *Financial Management* (previously titled *Procurement*), and Section 8000, *Denials, Terminations, and Appeals*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Terms are footnoted to refer the reader to Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*.
- Footnotes now provide additional information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, however, references to titles or item numbers might not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the Program Specialist at CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov for help locating information.

Changes and Additions
Section 7000

Financial Management (previously titled *Procurement*) — Revised section name better reflects content.

Cost Principles — Added to explain cost principles; and allowable and unallowable costs.

Standards of Conduct — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.318.

Full and Open Competition — Added based on 2 CFR 200.319.

Written Procurement Procedures — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.318 to provide details about written procedures.

Procurement Methods — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.320 to provide detailed guidance about procurement methods.

Noncompetitive Method — Revised to explain the types of noncompetitive procurement methods.

Bonding Requirements — Revised to provide details about the use and requirement of bonds.

Solicitation — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.319 to detail information about solicitations.

Contracts — Revisions based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II.

Contract Negotiation for an RFP — Revisions based on 2 CFR 200.320.

Contract for an IFB — Changes based on 2 CFR 320.

Contract Management — Added based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II.

Clean Air and Water Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act — Added based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (G).

Equal Employment Opportunity — Edits were based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (C).

Copeland Anti-Kickback Act — Added based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (D).

Davis-Bacon Act — Added based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (D).

Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act — Edits were based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (E).

Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement — Added based on 2 CFR 200, Appendix II (F).

Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprise, and Labor Surplus Area Firms — Edited based on 2 CFR 200.321.

Protest — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.318.

Records Retention — Previously *Record Keeping Requirements*. Revised based on 2 CFR 200.333.

Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women’s Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms — Revisions were made based on 2 CFR 200.321.

Compensation for Purchased Services — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.319.

Disputes — Revised based on 2 CFR 200.318.

Changes and Additions

Section 8000

Section 8000 was rewritten to encompass federal regulations succinctly and clearly. Citations at “Termination” and at “Hearing” clarify regulations as they pertain specifically to CSFP in 7 CFR 247, *Commodity Supplemental Food Program*.

The July 2018 revision of Section 7000 replaces the November 2009 version. The July 2018 revision of Section 8000 replaces the April 2010 version.

CSFP Handbook is available through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Internet site. Visit <http://www.squaremeals.org/>; select Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, then CSFP Policy & Handbook.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: June 1, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-02

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Section 4000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 4000, *Managing the Program*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Terms are footnoted to refer the reader to Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*.
- Footnotes now provide additional information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, however, references to titles or item numbers might not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the Program Specialist at commodityoperations@texasagriculture.gov for help locating information.

Changes and Additions

Throughout – The Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-79, the Farm Bill) amended CSFP’s eligibility requirements to phase out the participation of women, infants, and children (WIC) participating in the program. Because all women and infants have transitioned off the program, the handbook has been revised accordingly.

Coverage of Contracted Service Area – Removed NOTE per Commodity Operations because the note is no longer applicable to the program.

Receipt of USDA Foods – Added to fully explain responsibilities of CEs and subagencies.

Storage – Previously “Storage of USDA Foods.” Changed to better reflect content.

Insurance – This entire subsection was added per USDA memo FD-139, *Clarification on Inventory Protection Requirements*. Explains the requirement for insurance to protect USDA Foods stored at CE and subdistributing agencies facilities.

Date of Possession – Added example for clarity.

USDA Foods Distribution – Previously “USDA Foods Distribution to Program Recipients.” Renamed to better reflect content.

Program recipients – This information is relocated from elsewhere in this section.

Product dates – Based on FD-107, *Donated Food Storage, Distribution, and Product Dating (Revised)*.

Disaster Household Distribution Program – Added per final rule *Requirements for the Distribution and Control of Donated Foods – The Emergency Food Assistance Program: Implementation of the Agricultural Act of 2014* (April 19, 2016).

USDA Foods preferences – This information is relocated from elsewhere in this section.

Caseload Management – Added this subsection per USDA memo FD-099, *Questions and Answers about Waiting Lists, and Available Flexibilities in Caseload Management (Rev)*. The memo recommends caseload management best practices and expands on requirements laid out at 7 CFR 247. This also affects “Ensure full use of caseload.”

Food Losses – Changes to this subsection provide a full discussion of federal regulations. Items “Fraud,” “Negligence,” and “Uncontrollable Event” are moved from elsewhere as part of this discussion.

Report of Loss of USDA Foods – Previously *Loss Reports*. Revised and added content to provide a full discussion of federal regulations.

Holds and Recalls – This entire subsection has been revised. Some content was added per final rule *Requirements for the Distribution and Control of Donated Foods – The Emergency Food Assistance Program: Implementation of the Agricultural Act of 2014* (April 19, 2016). Other content was moved from elsewhere in this section. This affects the items “Public Notification of a Recall,” “Out-of-Condition USDA Foods,” and “Salvage license.”

Application Process – This subhead has been revised as necessary for clarity. Other content was moved from elsewhere in this section. Affects these items:

- Other Public Assistance Programs
- Application Form
- Confidentiality
- Participant Rights and Responsibilities

Written Application Procedures – Added per Commodity Operations to ensure program integrity.

Electronic Information – Added to express federal and state regulations about electronic signatures.

Participant Rights and Responsibilities – Previously *Participant Agreement, Rights, Obligations, and Fair Hearing Request*. Revised name accurately reflects content of form.

Eligibility – Content was moved from elsewhere in this section. Affects these subsections and items:

- Proof of Eligibility
- Name and age
- Address
- Income
- Residential Eligibility
- Citizenship
- Service Area
- Income Eligibility
- Determining Household Size
- Determining Household Income
- Determination of Eligibility
- Eligible
- Eligible and on Wait List
- Not Eligible

The Wait List – Created separate subheader to hold all wait list information. Some information was moved from elsewhere; other information was based on FD-099, *Questions and Answers about Waiting Lists, and Available Flexibilities in Caseload Management (Rev)*.

Certification – The content in this header was revised to fully explain federal regulations. Affects these subsections and items:

- Initial Certification
- Recertification

The Proxy – Added this subhead and some content per USDA memo FD-099, *Questions and Answers about Waiting Lists, and Available Flexibilities in Caseload Management (Rev)*, which recommends caseload management best practices. Other content was moved from elsewhere. Affects these items:

- Multiple Proxies
- Requirements
- Proxy Change

Dual Participation – Revised per 7 CFR 247 and per the final rule *Requirements for the Distribution and Control of Donated Foods – The Emergency Food Assistance Program: Implementation of the Agricultural Act of 2014* (April 19, 2016).

Transfer of Certification – Added content to fully explain federal regulations.

Certification Expiration – Added content to fully explain federal regulations.

Discontinuance – Revised per USDA memo FD-099, *Questions and Answers about Waiting Lists and Caseload Management*, recommends no-show policy, which Commodity Ops calls a *missed distribution policy*.

CSFP Missed Distribution Poster – Reference pending the consideration and approval of the CSFP Missed Distribution Poster. All FBs that responded to a poll have such a policy; TDA is simply standardizing the policy. This topic involves caseload management and use of the wait list per FD-099, *Questions and Answers about Waiting Lists and Caseload Management (Rev)*.

Program Violations – Added header; and revised and added content to fully explain federal regulations. This affects these subheaders and items:

- Violations Not Involving Fraud
- Violations Involving Fraud
- Three Fraudulent Violations
- Claims against Participants for Fraud
- Pursuing Claims for Fraud

Notification of Disqualification for the CSFP – Added to explain federal regulations.

Participant Rights and Responsibilities – Clarified consent to release information per federal regulations.

Sites – In this subhead, deleted lengthy lists of program requirements that are repeated in *Agreement Between CE and TDA (H1502)*.

Sites Located at Religious Organizations – Added per the following USDA memos: FD-138, *Written Notice and Referral Requirements for Beneficiaries Receiving TEFAP and CAFAP Benefits from Religious Organizations*; FD-141, *Questions and Answers Related to the 7 CFR Part 16: Equal Opportunity for Religious Organizations Final Rule*; FD-142, *Further Clarification on the Prohibition Against Explicitly Religious Activities As Part of TEFAP and CAFAP Activities*. These memos clarify “explicitly religious activities” as well as other details related to sites located at religious organizations per 7 CFR 16. The memo also provides specific examples related to CSFP.

Beneficiary Referral Request – Two policy memos address the beneficiary referral request: FD-138, *Written Notice and Referral Requirements for Beneficiaries Receiving TEFAP and CSFP Benefits from Religious Organizations* and FD-141, *Written Notice and Referral Requirements for Beneficiaries Receiving TEFAP and CSFP Benefits from Religious Organizations*.

Training – Revised to convey current practice by removing outdated training processes.

Monitor Reviews by Contracting Entities – Revised to clarify TDA’s discretion to collect specific information. Deleted repetitive content.

Deletions

Throughout – The Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-79, the Farm Bill) amended CSFP’s eligibility requirements to phase out the participation of women, infants, and children (WIC) participating in the program. Because all women and infants have transitioned off the program, the handbook has been revised accordingly.

Determining Foster Child Income – Removed because children are no longer eligible to participate in the CSFP per the Agricultural Act of 2014. *NOTE: Children participating on or before February 6, 2014, may be eligible for recertification.*

Who Can Apply? – Placed information under different header.

The June 2018 revision replaces the April 2015 version.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: March 28, 2018

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 18-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 5000 and 6000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 5000, *Visits, Reviews, and Audits* and Section 6000, *Civil Rights*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
- Some text was rewritten for clarity as well as for proper grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals is updated.
- Terms are footnoted to refer the reader to Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*.
- Footnotes now provide additional information that otherwise would clutter the text.

Upon complete revision of the entire handbook, TDA will correlate numbers or headings throughout. Until then, however, references to titles or item numbers might not be accurate. TDA suggests that CEs search the text by key words or phrases. If necessary, email the Program Specialist at commodityoperations@texasagriculture.gov for help locating information.

Changes and Additions
Section 5000

Compliance Reviews by Texas Department of Agriculture – Clarified 1) the possible frequency of compliance reviews and 2) required documentation during a compliance review.

Examination of Contracting Entity Records – Restatement of federal regulations for clarity of expected documentation during a review.

Findings and Corrective Action Plans – Revised or added per 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

General Audit Policy – New or heavily revised per 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*; and per USDA Memo FD-104, *Value of USDA Donated Foods for Audits (Revised)*, which clarifies options for assigning value to USDA Foods for audit purposes.

Compliance with Audit Requirements – Updated per 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

Changes and Additions

Section 6000

Data Collection and Maintenance – Clarifies for CEs the details of submitting the information.

Training – Per USDA memo FD-113, *Civil Rights Training Requirements for Volunteers*, which clarifies federal policy regarding civil rights training for volunteers in CSFP (in addition to other programs).

Accessibility Examples – Clarification of federal regulations.

Sites Located at Religious Organizations – Refers readers to *CSFP Handbook* Section 4000 for details on sites located at religious organizations.

The March 2018 revision of Section 5000 and 6000 replaces the April 2010 version of Section 5000 and the December 2015 version of Section 6000.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REVISION NOTICE

Date: May 24, 2017

To: All Holders of the *Commodity Supplemental Food Program Handbook*

Revision No: 17-01

Effective: **Immediately**

Subject: Revisions to the *CSFP Handbook*, Sections 1000, 2000, 3000

The style and format of this handbook are under revision. All sections will eventually undergo the bulleted list of changes below. This current revision covers Section 1000, *Introduction*; Section 2000, *Eligibility and Application Requirements*; and Section 3000, *Program Agreement*.

- The text was reformatted for readability.
- Some portions of the text were moved for context and logical flow.
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- Terminology was updated to reflect current TDA usage.
- The updated, tiered table of contents better aids navigation.
- Navigation to information on SquareMeals was updated.
- Terms are footnoted to refer the reader to Section 9000, *Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms*.
- Added footnotes provide additional information that would have otherwise cluttered the text.

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Changes and Additions

Section 1000, *Introduction*

Program Description – Edited content per Final Rule, *CSFP: Implementation of the Agricultural Act of 2014*. The final rule phased out the eligibility of women, infants, and children in CSFP.

Section 2000, Eligibility and Application Requirements

IRS Automatic Revocation of Exemption List – Per USDA memo FD-118, *Automatic Revocation of Tax-Exempt Status* (October 13, 2011). Failure to comply with the IRS's filing requirements can result in the revocation of an organization's tax-exempt status by the IRS. TDA and CEs must ensure at least annually that organizations with which they have agreements do not appear on the list.

Debarment Certification – Rewritten in response to changes to *Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion for Covered Contracts* (Form H2048). TDA offers three options for CEs to provide debarment certification for covered contracts.

Application Packet – Added to clarify that the application packet is part of the application process.

Section 3000, Program Agreement

Equipment management – Added to clarify CE's responsibilities.

Equipment inventory – Added to clarify CE's responsibilities.

Equipment safeguards – Added to clarify CE's responsibilities.

Equipment sales – Added to clarify CE's responsibilities.

Formerly "Leases;" now "Rental costs of real property and equipment" – Rewrote for clarity.

Formerly "Materials and Supplies;" now Materials and supplies, including computing devices – Rewrote for clarity.

Travel – Rewrote for clarity.

Deletions

Section 2000, Eligibility and Application Requirements

Detailed discussions of the *Application for Participation/Plan of Operation*, including the following:

- Site Information
- Budget
- Management Plan
- Nutrition Education
- Training
- Authorized Representative

The May 2017 revision replaces the April 2010 version.

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