

Section 9000

Terms, Definitions, and

Acronyms

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9100 Terms and Definitions

Administrative costs — Direct and indirect costs (as defined in 7 CFR 249.12(a)(1)(ii)), exclusive of food costs, which TDA determines to be necessary to support SFMNP operations. For a list of allowable administrative costs, see Item 7500.

Administrative review official (ARO) - An independent and impartial official appointed by TDA and familiar with SFMNP requirements who presides over an appeal. The ARO's decision is the final administrative determination of the appeal.

Appeal — A request for review of an adverse action through a fair and impartial hearing.

Applicant — Any person who applies to receive SFMNP benefits.

Authorized representative – An authorized representative is authorized on behalf of a CE to make written agreements with TDA to operate the SFMNP, to sign documents or reports about the agreement, and to present claims for reimbursement, when appropriate, to TDA.

Bulk purchase – Bulk quantities of certain produce items, such as apples or sweet potatoes, are purchased directly from authorized farmers by TDA or the CE, then divided among and distributed directly to eligible SFMNP participants.

Certification — The use of criteria and procedures to assess and document each applicant's eligibility for the SFMNP.

Compliance buy – A covert, onsite investigation in which an SFMNP representative poses as an SFMNP participant or proxy and attempts to transact one or more SFMNP vouchers.

Contracting entity (CE) — A public agency or private nonprofit organization that enters into an agreement with TDA to administer the SFMNP at the local level. A CE determines the eligibility of applicants, distributes vouchers and bulk purchase foods, and provides nutrition education to low-income persons, either directly or through another agency with which it has entered into a written agreement.

Dual participation — Simultaneous participation by an individual in the SFMNP at more than one local service area. Dual participation is not permitted.

Elderly persons — Persons 60 years of age or older.

Eligible foods – Fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables and herbs for human consumption. Eligible foods may not be processed or prepared beyond their natural state except for usual harvesting and cleaning processes.

Farmer – An individual authorized to sell eligible foods at participating farmers’ markets and through bulk purchase agreements.

Farmers’ market or farmers’ market association – An association of local farmers who assemble at a defined location for the purpose of selling their produce (eligible foods) directly to consumers.

Fiscal year – The period of 12 calendar months beginning October 1 of any calendar year and ending September 30 of the following calendar year.

Food Costs – The cost of eligible foods purchased at authorized farmers’ markets or through bulk purchases.

Household – A group of related or nonrelated individuals who are living together as one economic unit.

Local agency – Any nonprofit entity or local government agency that certifies eligible participants, issues SFMNP vouchers, arranges for distribution of eligible foods through bulk purchases, and/or provides nutrition education or information on operational aspects of the Program to SFMNP participants.

Locally grown – Produce grown within Texas borders or adjoining states; New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, or Louisiana.

Nonprofit agency – a private agency that is exempt from the payment of Federal income tax under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

Nutrition education – Individual or group sessions that provide relevant materials in keeping with the individual’s personal, cultural, and socioeconomic preferences and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans that emphasize relationships between nutrition and health and encourage participants to build healthful eating patterns and to take action for good health.

Participants – Elderly people age 60 and over who are at or below the 185% poverty level who are receiving SFMNP benefits.

Program – The Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP).

Proxy – A person authorized by an eligible participant to act on their behalf, including application for certification, receipt of SFMNP vouchers or bulk purchases, and redemption of vouchers at a farmers’ market.

Texas Unified Nutrition Programs System (TX-UNPS) – The web-based application and claims processing system for all food and nutrition programs administered by TDA. See <https://txunps1.texasagriculture.gov/txunps>.

Voucher – A check or other negotiable financial instrument by which benefits under the SFMNP are transferred to participants.

9200 Acronyms

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

ARO – Administrative Review Official

CACFP – Child and Adult Care Food Program

CAP – Corrective action plan

CE – Contracting entity

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

CSFP – Commodity Supplemental Food Program

FDP – Food Distribution Program

F&N – Food and Nutrition Division of the Texas Department of Agriculture

FMNP – Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program

FNS – Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture

IFB – Invitation for bid

IRS – U.S. Internal Revenue Service

RFP – Request for proposal

SAO – State Auditor’s Office

SBP – School Breakfast Program

SFMNP – Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program

SMP – Special Milk Program

SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

SSI – Supplemental Security Income

TDA – Texas Department of Agriculture

TEFAP – The Emergency Food Assistance Program

TX-UNPS – Texas Unified Nutrition Programs System

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

WIC – Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.