

Section 1000

Introduction

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1100 Program Description

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) was authorized under Federal Public Law 98-8, Title II, as amended.

In August 1996, TEFAP was amended by federal welfare reform legislation. The amendment included a requirement for states to consolidate TEFAP and another commodity assistance program, the Soup Kitchen and Food Bank (SKFB) Program, into a single program.

The consolidated commodity assistance program, TEFAP, was implemented on December 1, 1997. In Texas, TEFAP operated under the name “Texas Commodity Assistance Program (TEXCAP)” until 2011.

1200 Administration

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to administer TEFAP in Texas and does so in accordance with federal and state requirements. These requirements can be referenced in the

- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 7 CFR Parts 250 and 251 and
- Texas Administrative Code (TAC) at Title 4, Part 1, Chapter 24.

TDA distributes funds and USDA Foods to participating contracting entities (CEs), that is, nonprofit organizations and public agencies, that

- determine the eligibility of applicants,
- receive, store, transport and distribute USDA Foods to eligible participants, and
- conduct nutrition education activities for eligible participants.

TDA's responsibilities include the following tasks:

- Administering TEFAP in Texas
- Disbursing administrative funds
- Assisting CEs in the operation and management of the program
- Reviewing the program to ensure that reimbursement is used for program purposes and USDA Foods are distributed to eligible participants

CEs' responsibilities include the following tasks:

- Complying with the terms of the Commodity (USDA Foods) Agreement Between Contracting Entity and Texas Department of Agriculture and the *Application for Participation/Plan of Operation*
- Implementing and operating an approved financial management system
- Maintaining program records
- Submitting claims for reimbursement.

1300 Other Programs

TDA administers TEFAP through agreements with nonprofit organizations or public agencies in Texas. TDA also administers the following USDA programs:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Special Milk Program (SMP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Food Distribution Program (FDP)
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), in limited areas
- Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), in limited areas
- Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), in limited areas
- Food Assistance for Disaster Relief

Organizations may receive additional information about these programs by contacting

Food and Nutrition
Texas Department of Agriculture
PO Box 12847
Austin, TX 78711
877-TEX-MEAL (877-839-6325)
<http://www.squaremeals.org>

If an organization is approved to participate in more than one program at the same time, the CE must ensure that it will

- maintain separate records for each program and
- attribute costs to the appropriate program.

1400 Funding

Each year, USDA Foods and administrative funding are provided to TDA by USDA to administer and operate TEFAP in Texas. TDA uses USDA monies to fund approved administrative costs associated with the operation of TEFAP.