

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Program

June 2025 Monthly Newsletter

[NEW Training Course Offering: Understanding the Texas Food Bank Network](#)

This [training video](#) provides an overview of how regional food banks strengthen their operations through partnerships with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and the Texas Food Bank Network. Viewers will gain a foundational understanding of TEFAP in Texas, including the roles of TDA, contracting entities, food banks, and local pantries. The video also covers food distribution processes, program compliance requirements, and real-world best practices shared by Commissioner Sid Miller and leaders from Texas food banks.

[TEFAP Distributions Guidance](#)

As mentioned in the recent food bank call, TDA has added guidance to the TEFAP handbook to clarify that CEs must utilize only the eligibility criteria and methods established by TDA and therefore cannot limit the distribution of USDA Foods to a certain subset of the eligible population.

This guidance is not meant to preclude a food bank from allowing sites to conduct distributions that target specific populations. Such distributions are permissible if no eligible participant outside of the targeted demographic who requests food is denied and if all eligibility and documentation requirements are maintained.

Since such distributions may also require an approved distribution plan, please notify TDA if you currently have any such targeted distribution sites

and briefly describe how you ensure all associated program regulations are maintained.

TANS Update

TANS implementation timelines have changed since the publishing of this article. Please visit the [TANS SquareMeals page](#) for the most current information.

RELEASE: Updated S/FMNP FMA/Farmer Agreement Prototypes

TDA has updated the prototype Farmers' Market Association/Farmer Agreements for both the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (Agreement FMNP-03) and the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (Agreement SFMNP-04). Per federal regulation, any non-procurement agreement involving a federal grant requires that the signees attest that they have not been debarred or suspended from participation in another federal program. Already executed agreements are still in effect and do not need to be re-signed.

RELEASE: Updated Farmers' and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Handbooks

Both the FMNP and SFMNP Handbooks have been revised as follows and posted to SquareMeals:

- Section 2000, Eligibility and Application Requirements - Clarified that TDA staff may make site visits prior to a new or returning CE's program participation and that associated training may be done in person or online in an interactive format.
- Section 4000, Managing the Program - Clarified that CE staff must visit any new site prior to approving it to participate in the program.
- Section 7000, Financial Management – Added federal disposal procedures for equipment/supplies.

Handbook Revision Notices are also posted to SquareMeals that give details about the revisions made. You can find the revised sections, Revision Notices, and complete searchable Handbooks at:

- [FMNP](#)
- [SFMNP](#)



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COMMISSIONER SID MILLER



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