



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well
Being

Date: April 12, 2022

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding to Counties for Federal Fiscal Year 2022

Priority: Information Only

On March 11, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the Act). Section 1101(b) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provides an additional \$1.15 billion of appropriated funds for SNAP administrative expenses to assist State agencies in carrying out legislative provisions and administering SNAP. North Carolina received \$15,443,247.61 for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022, which expire on September 30, 2022.

DHHS is allocating \$10 million of the FFY2022 funds to counties to support your county's efforts of administering the FNS program due to the workload increases that counties are experiencing as a result of increased food insecurity due to the pandemic. **DHHS will allocate county amounts based on FNS caseloads and these allocation amounts are attached.**

Counties will not need to do anything differently to receive these funds. Counties will charge FNS administrative coding as normal through the monthly 1571 process. Once the 1571 is received from the counties, the funds charged to FNS administrative coding will be reclassified by the State before claiming federal reimbursement allowing counties to receive 100% of their claimed FNS administrative funds up to the allocations noted in the attached document.

Guidance received from the USDA states that ARPA provides a unique opportunity for your agency to improve technology in a way that will increase access while maintaining stewardship of Federal dollars. Agencies are encouraged to direct the realized administrative funding savings provided by the Act to SNAP improvements aligned with key Administration priorities, including:

- Investment in technology to improve client access to SNAP, including online applications, benefit management tools, text messaging, and ensuring all client access is mobile enabled.
- Expand call center capacity and reduce call center wait times.
- Make investments in employees and infrastructure to provide the necessary technology and training in order to modernize customer service delivery.
- Explore opportunities to improve service delivery and access to vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted by remote operations, language barriers, fear of government services, and a lack of access to technology.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

- Improve reporting systems to ensure timely and reliable information is provided to USDA FNS, Congress, and stakeholders on program outcomes and activities, including major systems changes.

Counties will receive the 100% reimbursement as part of the July 2022 and August 2022 service month Admin EFT deposits paid at the end of August 2022 and end of September 2022, respectively.

We will be discussing SNAP ARPA funding to counties for federal fiscal year 2022 at the April 14, 2022 NCACDSS Executive Board meeting. You can submit questions using [this form](#); we will be holding an optional consultation call to answer questions from counties on Friday, April 22nd from 12:00-1:00pm through Zoom [using this link](#). You can also reach out to your Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Specialist with questions at dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Madhu Vulimiri, MPP
Deputy Director
Division of Child and Family Well-Being



Carla West, Senior Director for Economic Security
Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services Section

MV/CLW/vd

Attachments: (1)

County Allocations for SNAP ARPA Funds (SNAP Administrative Expenditures) for Federal Fiscal Year 2022

EFS-FNSEP-27-2022