



# CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE

## *Emergency Pandemic Food Assistance*

EES Policy No. 20-03-30

### **Policy Memo**

**From:** Sandra Kimmons

**Date:** April 10, 2020 (updated July 2, 2020)

**Primary DCF Areas Affected:** Food Assistance

**RE:** COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Allotments  
(supplements benefits)

**Contact Persons:** Janelle Harper

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 allows for the issuance of emergency allotment (EA) supplemental payments when there is a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID-19, and a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration. Kansas is approved to issue EA supplemental benefits to ongoing Food Assistance households for March, April, May and June of 2020. This means benefit amounts will be increased to the maximum benefit amount based on household size. Ongoing Food Assistance households that already received the maximum monthly allotment for their household size are not eligible for this EA supplemental benefit. The EA supplement benefit will be distributed to ongoing Food Assistance households through their EBT cards.

EA supplemental benefits for ongoing Food Assistance households for March will be issued April 15th-24th based on the consumer's last name. The EA supplemental benefits for April will be issued in May. The distribution dates for the May EA supplemental benefit will be communicated at a later date.

New applications received in April and May or late Reviews for April and May benefits will receive the EA supplemental benefit. Benefit amounts for the initial benefit month will be increased to the maximum benefit amount based on household size.

The EA supplements must be tracked for reporting purposes. They are not to be issued for benefit months prior to March and April of 2020. The agency may request additional months from USDA if there is an ongoing need for EA supplemental payments. Notification to the households will be done by public announcement. Kansas has been approved to issue EA supplements for the months of March, April, May and June 2020. April EA benefits were issued May 11-20; May EA benefits were issued June 15-24; June EA benefits will be issued July 21-30.

Example –

Client applies on March 15:

\$355 is the maximum benefit amount
- \$184 is the pro-rated amount they received
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= \$171 <b>EA supplemental payment</b>