

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services 600 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USDA Approves Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Ward County Residents

BISMARCK, N.D. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved North Dakota’s request to run a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help Ward County residents affected by recent flooding who are not current program clients.

The program is intended to help those who experienced disaster-related losses and lived or worked in Ward County at the time of the disaster. People must **act soon** and apply between July 5 and July 13, 2011.

A qualifying family of three can receive up to \$526 toward the purchase of groceries or other qualifying food products including hot foods at USDA approved food stores.

People can apply at the Ward County Social Service Office, 400 22nd Ave. NW in Minot, or at other county social service offices if they evacuated to other counties. People simply need to complete the 2-page application, provide identification, and prove they lived or worked in a flood damaged area of Ward County at the time of the recent flood disaster. (See details below.) If they qualify, people will leave the office with a specialized debit card called an EBT card, which they can use at any approved grocery store or other authorized food vendor.

People should bring this information to the county social service office:

- Photo ID, utility bill or other mail with identifying information and address, or signed statement of identity provided by another person,
- If available, current paycheck stubs and receipts for disaster expenses.

Qualifying income levels are set by USDA.

Household Size	Disaster Gross Income Limit	Maximum Benefit
1	\$1503	\$200
2	\$1815	\$367
3	\$2,126	\$526
4	\$2,449	\$668
5	\$2,787	\$793
6	\$3,124	\$952

In addition, the department also received approval to issue a supplemental benefit to current recipients who will not qualify under disaster SNAP. The supplement will result in these households receiving the maximum benefit for their household size. These benefits will be available starting Saturday, July 2, 2011.

Individuals with questions can contact Ward County Social Service Office at 701-852-3552, or the N.D. Department of Human Services at 1-800-755-2716 or 701-328-2328.

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