



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

September 15, 2005

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

**SUBJECT:** Extension of 30 Day Limit for Initial Carry-over of Previous Year's Eligibility due to Hurricane Katrina

3101 Park  
Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA  
22302-1500

**TO:** Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions  
State Agencies

Child Nutrition Programs  
All States

Our memorandum of August 31, 2005, which addressed the special needs of schools in the disaster areas created by Hurricane Katrina, allowed schools that are unable to maintain normal accounting systems to serve all meals free to students through September 30, 2005. However, in those schools that have been able to maintain normal accounting procedures and in those schools that are now returning to normal procedures, we have been asked to extend the initial 30 day carry-over of a child's previous year's free or reduced priced eligibility in recognition of the significant disruption in normal activities that occur at the start of the school year. State agencies may extend the initial carry-over for up to 30 additional days for a total of 60 operating days for local educational agencies that are in jurisdictions which are federally declared disaster areas. State agencies may also permit the extension in local educational agencies that have experienced a significant influx of students from areas affected by Hurricane Katrina and whose application processing has been delayed as a result of efforts made to accommodate displaced students.

If there are any questions concerning this policy, State agencies should contact their Regional office.

**Original Signed**

STANLEY C. GARNETT  
Director  
Child Nutrition Division