

SPECIAL DISASTER RULES FOR ACCEPTING FOOD STAMP/ EBT BENEFITS FOR HOT FOOD PURCHASES

Effective immediately, **retail food stores licensed by the Food and Nutrition Service to accept food stamp benefits** in the areas listed below **can accept food stamp/EBT benefits** from food stamp customers in exchange **for hot foods**.

**These special rules are in effect through
November 30, 2005 in the following areas:**

- State of Louisiana
- State of Mississippi
- 6 Alabama counties -- BALDWIN, CHOCTAW, CLARKE,
MOBILE, SUMTER, WASHINGTON
- State of Florida
- State of Texas
- State of Georgia

If hot foods are purchased with EBT benefits during the approval period, the purchases are NOT subject to sales tax, as the hot foods are considered food stamp eligible.

We encourage all food stamp authorized retail food stores in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Texas, Georgia and the 6 Alabama counties to post a special notice in the store letting food stamp customers know that they can use their food stamp/EBT card to purchase hot foods during this period.

Thank you for helping us in aiding the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

September 2005