



Connecticut Department of Social Services

NEWS RELEASE

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**STATE ISSUING EARLIER EBT BENEFITS FOR
RESIDENTS HIT BY FOOD SPOILAGE**

HARTFORD – Connecticut Social Services Commissioner Roderick L. Bremby today directed that monthly food and cash assistance benefits to be available to all clients on Tuesday, November 1 to help low-income residents pay for the cost of replacing food spoiled by power outages from Storm Alfred.

“On behalf of the Malloy Administration, the Department of Social Services is working with our federal partners to help families and individuals who have lost food as a result of this unusual storm,” Commissioner Bremby said.

Monthly benefit allotments will be replenished electronically for all clients on the first of the month – rather than over the first three days of the month by alphabetical breakdown, as is normally done.

This means that eligible Connecticut households will be able to use their ATM-style electronic benefit cards to access food and cash assistance beginning shortly after midnight today. DSS took the action to make sure that families and individuals could get food and cash benefits as soon as possible, on the assumption that many are especially hard-pressed for these basic needs due to power outage and other storm-related problems.

The services involved are SNAP; Temporary Family Assistance; State Supplement for the Aged/Blind/Disabled; and State-Administered General Assistance. Currently, nearly 358,000 individuals in 196,000 households are enrolled in SNAP throughout Connecticut. The Temporary Family Assistance program serves 38,500 residents in 18,150 households, while the State Supplement for the Aged/Blind/Disabled program helps 15,380 individuals and State-Administered General Assistance serves 4,700 individuals.

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