



Tropical Storm Isaias Replacement SNAP Benefits

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Dear DTA Advisory Board Members:

I am sending the communication below on behalf of Alan Davidson, Acting Director of Communications, DTA

Good Afternoon Partners,

The Tropical Storm Isaias on August 4, 2020 caused many households to lose electricity and food. The Department recently received approval from the USDA to **automatically issue replacement SNAP benefits** for households in 33 cities and towns in the Commonwealth (see below).

We issue SNAP benefits over a 14-day period. Those who receive their benefits on the first three days of the month will be reissued 60% of their August benefits and everyone else will be reissued 20% of their July benefits. This amount includes a household's regular monthly SNAP benefit, as well as their Emergency SNAP allotment. We are awaiting guidance from USDA on the eligibility of P-EBT for replacement benefits and will let you when we receive confirmation.

If a household lost food due to the storm but does not live in one of the 33 cities and towns, they can still notify the Department through September 3, 2020. The Department is experiencing high call volume and we recommend having people upload the [SNAP 9B form](#) to DTACONnect.com or on the DTA Connect mobile app. Households can also write down the information asked for on the form onto a piece of paper, sign it and upload that to DTA Connect.

The Department anticipates issuing the replacement benefits soon and will let you know when they go out. We hope that these efforts make it easier for families and individuals to access food during such a difficult time.

We will also be issuing a \$350 per child **clothing allowance** this year for all eligible TAFDC clients under age 19. Most households will start to receive this benefit in the end of August. We will be sending out our regular notices to eligible families and sharing information on our [COVID-19 FAQ page](#).

As always, thank you for your continued partnership.

The 33 towns: Becket, Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, Chesterfield, East Brookfield, East Longmeadow, Grafton, Hardwick, Hinsdale, Holland, Hubbardston, Lanesborough, Longmeadow, Middlefield, Monson, Monterey, Mount Washington, New Marlborough, Northborough, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Sheffield, Shutesbury, Spencer, Stockbridge, Sutton, Wales, Wendell, West Stockbridge, Westminster, Wilbraham, and Worthington.

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