Operations Memorandum - SNAP/Food Stamps OPS090505

May 28, 2009

Waiver of the Interview Requirement for Elderly or DisabledSUBJECT:Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Households
interviewed by a Community-Based-Organization (CBO)TO:Executive Directors

FROM: Joanne Glover, Director, Bureau of Operations

PURPOSE

To inform County Assistance Offices (CAOs) that the waiver of the application interview by the CAO, when a household in which all members are elderly or disabled with no earned income is interviewed by the CBO, will end June 30, 2009.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The current waiver of the interview requirements in 7 CFR 273.2(e) was approved from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009. Please refer to <u>OPS080702</u>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), has advised states that their waivers will not be approved or renewed.

Old policy:

When:	Then:
An application is submitted to the CAO by	The CAO will not interview the household
a contracted CBO on behalf of a SNAP	unless information provided by the CBO is
household that has been interviewed by	questionable or if the household requests
the CBO and all verification is provided.	an interview. The CAO will determine
All members of the SNAP household are	eligibility and benefit level and use the "w"
elderly or disabled and have no earned	interview indicator on CABUDG for
income.	applications processed by a CBO.

New policy:

When:	Then:
An application is submitted to the CAO by	Starting July 1, 2009, the CAO must
a contracted CBO on behalf of a SNAP	interview these households. A telephone
household that has been interviewed by	interview is the preferred method unless
the CBO and all verification is provided.	the household requests a face-to-face
All members of the SNAP household are	interview. The "w" indicator will not be
elderly or disabled and have no earned	available on CABUDG starting July 1,

income. 2009.

A daily status will be sent to inform CAOs when the "w" indicator on CABUDG will no longer be available.

NEXT STEPS

- 1. Review this information with all appropriate staff.
- 2. Direct any questions to your Area Manager.
- 3. This Operations Memorandum and OPS080702 will become obsolete effective July 1, 2009.