



April 29, 2016

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Food and
Nutrition
Service**

3101 Park Center Dr
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

**SPECIAL DISASTER RULES
FOR ACCEPTING
SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)
EBT BENEFITS
FOR HOT FOOD PURCHASES**

Due to the floods from the severe storms, and effective immediately, **retail food stores licensed by the Food and Nutrition Service to accept SNAP benefits in Harris County, Texas may accept SNAP benefits in exchange for HOT foods and foods intended to be consumed on retailer premises.**

**These special rules are in effect through
May 31, 2016**

When hot foods are purchased with SNAP EBT benefits through May 31, 2016, the purchases are NOT subject to sales tax, as the foods mentioned above are considered SNAP eligible during this period.

We encourage all SNAP authorized retail food stores in Harris County, Texas to post a special notice in the store letting SNAP customers know that they can use their SNAP EBT benefits to purchase hot foods and, where practical, may remain on the premises to consume those foods.

Thank you for your assistance in aiding those impacted by the floods from the severe storms.