



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Food and
Nutrition
Service**

**3101 Park Center Dr
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500**

September 12, 2017

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

Due to the severe storms and flooding caused by Hurricane Irma, and effective immediately, **retail food stores licensed by the Food and Nutrition Service to accept SNAP benefits in the U.S. Virgin Islands 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
November 13, 2017**

When hot foods are purchased with SNAP EBT benefits through November 13, 2017, 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 the U.S. Virgin Islands 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 severe storms and flooding caused by Hurricane Irma.