Non-Congregate Feeding Based on Exceptional Circumstances

FOR

SSO/SFSP

Overview

Contracting Entities (CE’s) may request to implement non-congregate feeding for exceptional circumstances related to extreme weather other than excessive heat (wildfire smoke, flooding, etc.) or other circumstances that do not rise to the level of a disaster. This may be requested in situations where extreme weather prevents congregate feeding at an approved meal site.

Note: Does not apply when the extreme weather results in a disaster. Contact Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) directly if non-congregate feeding is needed at sites in a declared disaster area.

Submitting a Request

Submit a written request to SNPWaivers@TexasAgriculture.gov

Request must include:

• Explanation of the extreme weather imposing a barrier to congregate feeding
• The specific site(s) affected
• Justification for the need of the congregate feeding exception at each site
• Timeframe in which non-congregate feeding will be implemented
• Whether the extreme weather was unexpected and current, or if is a preemptive request in an area with high risk for certain weather phenomena.

The Review Process:

✓ CE’s submit a complete request to TDA.
✓ TDA reviews the request and sends the request to USDA for consideration
✓ TDA will notify the CE of final USDA approval or denial

Important to Note:

✓ Circumstances based solely on inconvenience or a CE’s difficulty administering congregate meals will not be considered.
✓ Requests must be approved before serving non-congregate meals.