

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 Division of Social Services
NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY, DENIAL OR PENDING STATUS

Date _____

Case Number: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Because you need Food and Nutrition Services right away, we postponed asking you to give us certain information. We now need you to bring or mail in the following information:

We're writing to tell you about the action we've taken on your Food and Nutrition Services case. If you have been approved to receive Public Assistance and/or SSI benefits or benefits from a State or local General Assistance program let your local agency know.

We've explained our action next to the box(es) marked.

You'll receive Food and Nutrition Services during the month(s)

of: _____

The first month you'll receive _____ which covers

the month(s) of: _____

After this first month you'll receive _____

Your application has not been approved because: .

You didn't do everything required for us to find out if you are eligible for Food and Nutrition Services. Here's what you still need to do:

If you do this by _____ you won't have to reapply.

If you want a fair hearing, fill out this form, tear it off, and mail to:

Benefits will not be issued past the first month unless you provide the information we asked for in the space above. If the information results in a change in your eligibility or level of benefits, we will act on those changes without giving you advance notice. If you do not provide the information we asked for by _____, we will close your case without further notice.

You can have a fair hearing of your case if you do not agree with our decision. You must request a hearing no later than

_____. In addition, if you have been certified, you can request a hearing at any time to dispute your current level of benefits. To request a fair hearing call the Food and Nutrition Services office at

_____ or fill out and return the form below. You can also call this number if you want to know more about how a fair hearing works. Free legal advice is available. Contact Legal Aid of North Carolina office. Street: 224 South Dawson St. Raleigh, NC 27601. Mailing: PO Box 26087 Raleigh, NC 27611 1-866-219-5262

Sincerely, _____

Telephone Number _____

Name of person requesting hearing

Address

Telephone number where you can be reached

Your signature

Today's date

Use this space to tell us why you want a fair hearing

For office use only

Case number	Case worker	Date notice sent	Date request received
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Action Taken on Your Food and Nutrition Services Case

The Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Program, formerly known as Food Stamps has a work requirement for some adults. **Some** adults may only receive FNS **for 3 months**, unless they are working.

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WORK TO GET FNS IF YOU ARE:

- Applying for or receiving unemployment benefits
- Getting Refugee or Work First Assistance
- A student in school at least half time
- Caring for an incapacitated person (who does not have to live with you)
- Operating a Home School at least 30 hours weekly
- Under the age of 18 or at least 50 years old
- Pregnant
- Physically or mentally unfit for work (even temporarily)
- Part of a FNS household with a child under 18 (even if the child is not eligible for FNS)
- In a drug or alcohol treatment program
- Unable to work due to Alcohol/Drug dependence (even if not in treatment)
- Homeless – Living in a Homeless Shelter or living on the street

If none of the above exceptions are met, you must be working an average of 20 hours per week, in any combination of the following:

- Paid Work (including your own business, even if you are making no money right now);
- Volunteering with a public, private or nonprofit agency such as Food Banks, Food Pantries, Schools, or Religious Organizations; or
- An approved Employment and Training (E&T) program.

If you have been denied FNS because you were not meeting the work requirement, you may be able to get FNS for at least three more months if you:

- Worked 80 hours in any 30-day period since you lost your FNS;
- Have started working, volunteering, or job training; or
- Are now unable to work or meet one of the other exceptions to the rule listed above.