



FAQ about Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) on Mobile Distributions

What is Food Purchase and Distribution Program?

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is conducting the Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP). This program was previously referred to as Trade Mitigation (TM) and is one of three USDA trade mitigation programs aimed at assisting farmers by purchasing surplus commodity food. Additional information may be found on the USDA website <https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food-to-usda/trade-mitigation-programs>

We do not have TEFAP at our pantry, how can we have FDPD food?

The states are providing special allowance for FDPD foods to allow sites that normally do not receive TEFAP to receive FDPD and distribute to *eligible* households.

Harvesters has created a new sign-in sheet for use on all mobile distributions until FDPD ceases.

Staff or volunteers will need to clarify that we have additional product (government donated) today. They will need to ensure each recipient is income eligible to receive the FDPD product and they will need to mark “Y” or Yes” on the sign in sheet; if the household does not meet the guidelines or does not wish to receive the FDPD food they need to mark “No”. **Staff and Volunteers must implement and utilize a system to ensure anyone who is not eligible or who rejects the food does not receive it. Please note, income eligibility is self-declared and proof of income is NOT required.**

Example script:

“Hello, we have government donated {insert specific produce} today.

Please read the five statements and look at the income guidelines to see if you qualify.”

How will we know which food is FDPD and which is not?

FDPD foods will have bright green USDA tags on all four sides toward both the top and bottom of the pallet in order to help Harvesters’ drivers as well as agency staff and volunteers identify the food.

Pallets must be placed together; we recommend it be placed at the beginning of the food the distribution.

What if a household does not qualify or refuses to sign?

Households that do not qualify or refuse to sign may not receive the FDPD food but they may still receive all the other food on the distribution.

Staff and Volunteers must implement and utilize a system to ensure anyone who is not eligible or who rejects the FDPD food does not receive it. Here are a few *suggestions*:

Place the FDPD food at the beginning of the distribution. The person responsible for sign-in can communicate directly with those who are handing out the FDPD product.

OR

Each household that qualifies can receive a ticket/index card/etc. (it could even be laminated or not - whatever is convenient) that they give to those who are handing out the FDPD product.

OR

The window of each car with a household that qualifies could be marked with washable marker with "FDPD" or "USDA"

OR

Another system that works for the distribution and the staff/volunteers.

What if we don't have any FDPD food on a distribution?

Always use the new sign-in sheet but mark through the TEFAP column and make a note at the bottom of the sheets that day that states, "NO TM/TEFAP on this distribution".

What do we do with the sign-in sheets after the distribution?

Partner agencies must maintain records relating to the food received from Harvesters and how it was distributed. Records must be maintained at the program site (point of distribution) for a period of at least three years, in addition to the current year.

I have additional questions, whom may I contact?

Customer Care

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