

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO 2017 HURRICANE EVACUEES

Food Assistance

If you are residing in New Jersey, you can apply for food assistance under the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP).

Apply either in person at the County Welfare Agency (CWA)/Board of Social Services (BSS) or online at www.NJSNAP.org.

Cash/Housing Assistance (available until January 31, 2018)

Evacuees from Hurricanes Harvey/Irma/Maria

- Evacuees can apply for emergency-specific, short-term cash assistance benefits as of August 10, 2017.
- These benefits are available for up to four months. These benefits will end on January 31, 2018, regardless of when the benefits started.
- These cash/housing benefits are not “assistance” under federal regulations. Therefore, they are not subject to all of the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ)/Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) requirements such as work participation, time limits, cooperating with child support rules, etc.
- These benefits also are not subject to all of the requirements under the WFNJ/General Assistance (GA) program.
- Short-term shelter, hotel, motel, or boarding home placements as a bridge to other housing may be available.

After January 31, 2018: Evacuees would need to apply for WFNJ/TANF or WFNJ/GA and must meet all applicable program requirements.

Child Care Assistance

Child care services also may be available in certain circumstances.

How to Apply for Assistance

Applicants seeking food, cash/housing and/or child care assistance should visit a local CWA/BSS.

In addition, the CWA/BSS will assist or direct applicants in accessing other federal benefits to which they may be entitled or had been receiving prior to evacuating (i.e. Unemployment benefits, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), etc.)

Please Note: Food, cash or housing evacuee benefits may change based on federal or DFD Guidance.