

nonprofit organization or institution or publicly operated community mental health center which is authorized by FNS to redeem benefits in accordance with § 278.1 and § 278.2(g) of this chapter.

(2) Eligible residents of a group living arrangement may use food stamp benefits issued to them to purchase meals prepared especially for them at a group living arrangement which is authorized by FNS to redeem benefits in accordance with § 278.1 and § 278.2(g) of this chapter.

(3) Residents of shelters for battered women and children as defined in § 278.1(g) of this chapter may use their food stamp benefits to purchase meals prepared especially for them at a shelter which is authorized by FNS to redeem benefits in accordance with § 278.1 and § 278.2(g) of this chapter.

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§ 274.12 [Amended]

2. In § 274.12:

a. Paragraph (e) is removed, and paragraphs (f) through (n) are redesignated as paragraphs (e) through (m), respectively;

b. Newly redesignated paragraph (k)(5) is removed.

PART 276—STATE AGENCY LIABILITIES AND FEDERAL SANCTIONS

1. In § 276.7, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 276.7 Administrative review process.

(b) *Notice of claim.* When asserting a claim against a State agency, FNS shall provide the notice to the State agency using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of the delivery.

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PART 278—PARTICIPATION OF RETAIL FOOD STORES, WHOLESALE FOOD CONCERNS AND INSURED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

1. In § 278.1:

a. The first sentence in paragraph (e) is amended by removing the words “wishing to redeem through wholesalers food stamps received from or on behalf of their participants”;

b. The first sentence in paragraph (f) is amended by removing the words “coupons directly through wholesalers” and adding in their place the word “benefits”;

c. The first sentence in paragraph (g) is amended by removing the words “coupons directly through wholesalers” and adding in their place the word “benefits”;

d. The second sentence in paragraph (k)(7) is revised as set forth below;

e. The first sentence in paragraph (l)(2) is amended by removing the words “certified mail or personal service” and adding in their place the words “using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of delivery.”

§ 278.1 Approval of retail food stores and wholesale food concerns.

* * * * *

(k) * * *

(7) * * * The FNS officer in charge shall issue a notice to the firm (using any delivery method that provides evidence of delivery) to inform the firm of any authorization denial and advise the firm that it may request review of that determination.

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2. In § 278.2, the text of paragraph (g) is redesignated as paragraph (g)(1), and a new paragraph (g)(2) is added to read as follows:

§ 278.2 Participation of retail food stores.

* * * * *

(g) * * *

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (g)(1) of this section, authorized drug addict and alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation programs, group living arrangements, shelters for battered women and children, and public or private nonprofit homeless meal providers for homeless food stamp households shall redeem EBT benefits directly through an insured financial institution in areas where an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system has been implemented.

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§ 278.6 [Amended]

3. In § 278.6, the first sentence in paragraph (o) is amended by removing the words “certified mail or personal service” and adding in their place the words “any method that provides evidence of delivery”.

§ 278.7 [Amended]

4. In § 278.7:

a. The first sentence in paragraph (b)(2) is amended by removing the words “certified mail-return receipt requested” and adding in their place the words “using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of delivery”;

b. The first sentence in paragraph (f) is amended by removing the words “certified mail or personal service” and adding in their place the words “using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of delivery”.

PART 279—ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL REVIEW—FOOD RETAILERS AND FOOD WHOLESALE

§ 279.8 [Amended]

1. In § 279.8, the first sentence in paragraph (e) is amended by removing the words “certified mail” and adding in their place the words “using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of delivery”.

§ 279.10 [Amended]

2. In § 279.10, the last sentence in paragraph (b) is amended by removing the words “registered or certified mail” and adding in their place the words “using any delivery method as long as the method provides evidence of delivery”.

PART 280—EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DISASTERS

1. § 280.1 is amended by adding a sentence to the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 280.1 Interim disaster procedures.

* * * The Secretary may also approve alternate methods for issuing food stamp benefits during a disaster when reliance on Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) systems is impracticable.

Dated: April 30, 2003.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Part 101

[Docket Nos. 91N-384H and 96P-0500]

RIN 0910-AC49

Food Labeling; Nutrient Content Claims, Definition of Sodium Levels for the Term “Healthy”; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is extending to July 5, 2003, the comment period for a proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** of February 20, 2003. The proposed rule would amend the regulation for sodium levels for foods that use the nutrient content claim