

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 14, 2019

UPDATE

Indiana prepares for early issuance of February SNAP benefits <u>February benefits will now be distributed on January 16</u>

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration has been informed by the USDA the state must issue Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits for the month of February **on Wednesday, January 16, 2019,** rather than the previously-reported date of Saturday, January 19.

In Indiana, SNAP benefits are usually issued to recipients according to an alphabetical schedule over a 19 day period throughout the month. This one-time early benefit distribution was identified by USDA officials as a mechanism provide SNAP benefits during the partial federal government shutdown.

No SNAP benefits will be issued in the month of February, so recipients are strongly encouraged to budget their SNAP benefits to ensure the amount received provides for their food needs through the entire month of February. <u>January benefits</u> are being distributed according to the normal schedule. FSSA will continue to accept and process applications for benefits for January issuance through January 31.

FSSA remains in contact with federal partners and will provide further updates if warranted.

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