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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |  
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TRANSMITTAL: 94 INF-16

TO: Commissioners of  
 Social Services

DIVISION: Economic  
 Security

DATE: April 8, 1994

SUBJECT: Food Stamps Clarification of Effective Date of a  
 Timely Adverse Action Notice

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Economic Security  
 Directors of Food Stamps  
 CAP Coordinators  
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Food Stamp Liaison at 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-  
 9225

ATTACHMENTS: None

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
		358-2.2, 358-2.3, 358-2.5, 387.20		<u>FSSB</u> VII-B, 3.1, VII-C-3.1, VIII-C-6.1	

This informational letter provides clarification recently received from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on assignment of effective dates for public assistance/Food Stamp and non-public assistance Food Stamp timely adverse action notices (closing and reduction notices).

The USDA has clarified that the effective date of a Food Stamp timely adverse action notice is the 10th day after the date the notice is mailed. For example, if a closing notice is mailed on November 2, the effective date of the closing notice is November 12, not November 30th or December 1st. Please review your district's procedures for assigning effective dates for Food Stamp closing and reduction notices to assure compliance with this clarification.

USDA has indicated that this clarification assures that all Food Stamp clients are afforded the same period of time to request aid continuing.

This clarification does not affect current procedures for assignment of Food Stamp authorization periods, payment lines or for closing cases on WMS. In the example above, the TO date on the WMS authorization for a timely closing will continue to be November 30th. Food stamp benefits are still issued for the full month (except for the initial month's food stamps which are prorated from the date of application). Also, sanctions and disqualifications for undercare cases continue to begin on the first day of the month following the effective date. The effective date of the action is the 10th day after the date the notice is mailed. The number of sanction months is counted from the first day of the month following the effective date.

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Oscar R. Best, Jr.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Economic Security