

## 63-503

### Definition of Terms

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#### 63-503.1 Accessible Liquid Resources

Accessible liquid resources include cash on hand and all funds in checking and savings accounts.

Accessible liquid accounts do not include:

- IRA accounts
  - Disaster insurance payments
  - Disaster assistance received or expected to be received during the benefit period
  - Payments from federal, state or local government agencies
  - Payments from disaster assistance organizations.
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#### 63-503.2 Commercial Channels of Food Distribution

In a lesser disaster, disruption and restoration of commercial channels of food distribution must have occurred to implement emergency CalFresh assistance.

"Disruption" means that the disaster has caused one or more of the following conditions:

- Community transportation to retail and wholesale food outlets is severely hampered;
- Retail and wholesale food outlets are closed;
- Delivery of commodities to food outlets is significantly hampered;
- Normal operating hours of food outlets are restricted, significantly limiting normal opportunities to purchase food;
- Normal opportunities to purchase food are hampered significantly due to unusually heavy demand on food outlets from households replacing food supplies damaged or destroyed by the disaster; and/or
- Power failure significantly restricts food outlet operations.

**NOTE:** For a major disaster, commercial channels of food distribution do not have to be disrupted to implement emergency CalFresh assistance.

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#### 63-503.3 Deductible Disaster

A deductible disaster related expense is an expense the household has paid or expects to pay **out-of-pocket during the disaster benefit period** and for which the household does not expect to receive full

## Related Expenses

reimbursement during the disaster benefit period.

If the household...	Then ...
Receives or anticipates receiving a reimbursement for these expenses during the disaster period,	Deduct the amount expected to be reimbursed and count only the net expenses.
Pays expenses using a credit card and will pay their credit card bill after the disaster benefit period,	That expense is not considered out-of-pocket and is not deductible.

Examples of deductible disaster-related expenses:

- Expenses to repair damage to the household's home or other property essential to employment or self-employment of a household member;
- Temporary shelter expenses if the home is uninhabitable or the household cannot reach it;
- Expenses for moving out of the area which was evacuated due to the disaster;
- Expenses related to protection of a home or business from disaster damage;
- Medical expenses for disaster related injury which occurred to a household member at the time of the disaster, including funeral and burial expenses in the event of a death;
- Disaster-related pet boarding fees;
- Expenses related to replacing necessary personal and household items such as clothing, appliances, tools, and educational materials;
- Fuel expenses for primary heating source;
- Area clean-up area expenses;
- Disaster-damaged vehicle expenses;
- Disaster-related storage expenses; or
- Food lost or spoiled due to the disaster or extended power outages.

**NOTE:** Shall not to mistake disaster losses with disaster expenses. For example, a family might report the destruction of their \$200,000 home. However, the household's *out-of-pocket* expenses that are *not*

*expected to be reimbursed during the disaster period* would be considered for determination of eligibility, not the entire value of their destroyed home.

Refer to [63-506](#) to determine Disaster CalFresh eligibility.

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**63-503.4  
Application  
Period**

The application period is the period in which the County may accept applications for Disaster CalFresh from new and ongoing households. FNS generally approves application periods of 7 days.

CDSS may request an extension of the application period if it appears that the demand for Disaster CalFresh remain high after the initial application period has ended.

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**63-503.5  
Disaster  
Benefit  
Period**

The disaster benefit period approved by FNS for each DFSP is 30 days, except in extraordinary circumstances.

The disaster benefit period begins on the date of the disaster or the date of any evacuation preceding the disaster.

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**63-503.6  
Disaster  
Gross  
Income  
Limits**

The maximum gross income limit for Disaster CalFresh equals the sum of the maximum monthly net income limits **PLUS** the maximum standard income deduction and shelter expense deduction. Refer to [63-506](#).

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**63-503.7  
Disaster  
Relief  
Agency**

Is a public or private agency that has been designated by the county and authorized by FNS to perform specified functions in connection with certification for, and distribution of Disaster CalFresh allotments during the disaster benefit period.

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**63-503.8  
Take Home  
Pay**

Take home pay includes:

- The wages a household actually receives after taxes and all other payroll withholdings (contributions to 401K, automatic payment to creditors, and the like),
- Public assistance payments,
- Other unearned income, and

- Net self-employment income.

**63-503.9  
Income**

The total **net *take-home-pay*** of all household members, received, and/or reasonably certain to be received **during the disaster benefit period**.

**Does not include** disaster assistance payments expected to be received during the benefit period from federal, state or local governments or disaster assistance agencies.

**63-503.10  
Maximum  
Disaster  
Benefits**

The maximum monthly allotment established for CalFresh for the household size. ([63-505.7](#))

If a household...	Then ...
Is a new Disaster CalFresh applicant	The household would receive the maximum monthly allotment for the appropriate household size.
Was participating in the regular CalFresh, received a regular allotment, and was later determined eligible for Disaster CalFresh	<p>The household would receive only a supplement amount to bring the household's allotment up to the maximum disaster allotment for the appropriate household size.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Ongoing recipients could also apply for Replacement CalFresh if the food they purchased with their regular allotment was destroyed during the disaster. However, they will receive a Disaster CalFresh supplement (to the regular allotment) only to the amount to bring the household's disaster benefit up to the maximum disaster CalFresh allotment for the household size.</p>

**63-503.11**

The maximum excess shelter expense deduction from the regular

**Shelter  
Expense  
Deduction**

CalFresh, until that deduction is eliminated.

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