



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

• 325 North Salisbury Street •

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Courier # 56-20-25 Fax 919-733-0645

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

July 7, 2006

RE: New Food Stamp Application

Dear County Director of Social Services:

ATTENTION: Food Stamp Supervisors

The Economic Services Section is pleased to announce that the much-anticipated new food stamp application is now available. The DSS-8207, North Carolina Food Stamp Application and DSS-8207B, Verification Workbook for Food Stamp Application are available on the Division's website. The website address is <http://info.dhhs.state.nc.us/olm/forms/>. The new application was developed with assistance from the Kleimann Communications Group through a grant funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. The form is shorter and more client-friendly for applicants who choose to complete it themselves. It was tested with caseworkers and their clients in five counties, all of whom think it is easy to use and is an improvement over the current application. We believe the new application will be well received by all users.

Effective July 1, 2006, the DSS-8207 will be the only state-approved Food Stamp application. Several counties currently use county-designed applications. It is mandatory that your county ensure that your application includes all statutory and regulatory statements. Please note that our office will no longer review or approve new county developed applications once the revised DSS-8207 is available for use.

An initial shipment of the new forms has been ordered and will be shipped to your county within the next few weeks. Back orders for the DSS-1698 and DSS-1698A will be filled with the new application and workbook. The DSS-1698 and DSS-1698A will be obsoleted upon receipt of the DSS-8207 and DSS-8207B.

Please contact your Food Assistance and Energy Programs Representative if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Schwartz".

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services Section

JS/rm
FAEP-07-2006