

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL

DATE: September 07, 2022
MANUAL: Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Certification Manual
TO: County Directors of Social Services
CHANGE NO: 06-2022
SUBJECT: Policy Updates - Inactive Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Account
EFFECTIVE: September 24, 2022

I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this change notice is to update the Manual Sections FNS 165 Inactive Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Account and FNS 515 Simplified Reporting Changes during the Certification Period. The 2008 Farm Bill Provisions on Clarification of Split Issuance; Accrual of Benefits; Definition Changes was published August 24, 2020. This final rule amends FNS regulations to implement provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill regarding permanent expungement of unused benefits:

- The expungement months of unused benefits is being reduced from 12 months to 9 months.
- The expungement process will remain the same, only the time period before benefits is expunged will change.
- In addition, when all members of an FNS unit are deceased, all remaining benefits will be expunged automatically by NC FAST from the EBT account when the FNS case is closed.

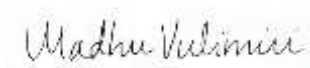
II. SPECIFIC CHANGES

FNS 165 Inactive Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Account	
FNS 165.03	Section has been updated to reflect the new expungement timeframes and provides an example of how the expungement time period restarts.
FNS 515 Simplified Reporting Changes During the Certification Period	
FNS 515.01 (4) i: iv	Note added, when the entire FNS unit is deceased. NC FAST will automatically expunge the FNS benefits. Caseworkers will not need to take action.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

FNS households that have received an expungement notice 30 days prior to the new nine-month expungement process, benefits will be expunged effective September 24, 2022. If you have any questions, please submit them to the Continuous Quality Improvement Team (CQI) dss.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Madhu Vulimiri, MPP
Deputy Director
Division of Child and Family Well-Being

MV/vd

Attachments (2):

FNS 165 Inactive Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Account
FNS 515 Simplified Reporting Changes During the Certification Period