

## APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR)

**Who is eligible?** Households which (1) live on the reservation or live in an approved area near the reservation and have at least one member who is a member of any recognized tribe, and which (2) meet the income and resource eligibility guidelines can participate in the program. Eligibility is based on the **income and resource of all members of the household.**

**How does a household apply for participation?** In order to apply, you must complete this form, provide documentation regarding your household's income and resources, and be interviewed by a certification worker. If you are unable to complete the application form, you may obtain assistance from someone who knows you, or the certification worker can help you at the time of the interview.

**What information must be presented during the interview?** When you come to your interview, it will be necessary to provide proof of income for **all** household members. For example, bring pay stubs and/or award letters for government benefits such as Supplement Security Income (SSI) or Social Security so the certification worker can determine the **total amount of income for all household members** received during the last 30 days. Statements for all household savings and checking accounts will also be required. Also, information on school tuition, grants, loans, and dependent child care expenses must be verified. Recently bills will help verify your address. Having all these items with you will help speed up your household's eligibility determination.

**Answer all the questions honestly and completely.** If you refuse to provide any necessary information or provide false information, your household will not be eligible for food assistance. The certification office may contact others to verify any information necessary to determine eligibility for participation in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. Information which may be verified includes, but is not limited to, the number of persons living in a household, the household's total income and resources, and any dependent care expenses claimed.

**Report changes.** You must report the following changes within **ten** (10) days of the date the change became known to the household:

- Changes in income;
- Changes in number of persons in the household, such as the addition and loss of a household member;
- When cash on hand, stocks, bonds, and money in bank account or savings account reaches or exceeds a total of \$2,000; and
- When cash on hand, stocks, bonds, and money in bank account or savings account exceeds \$3,250 for all households with two or more members if at least one household member is 60 years or older.

**You CANNOT receive commodities and food stamps at the same time.** You are permitted to switch from either program to the other but you cannot get benefits from both programs during the same month. It is illegal to participate in both programs at the same time.

You must also agree that you will not trade, sell, or give away food to someone else. If you cannot use a particular food item, please do not take it

**Questions.** We will be glad to help you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to ask. Also, if you need any other types of assistance, please let us know and we will refer you to other social service offices that may be able to meet your additional needs.

**WE WILL CONSIDER THIS APPLICATION WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, RELIGION, POLITICAL BELIEFS OR DISABILITY. USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.**