



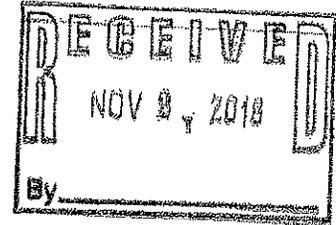
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and Nutrition
Service

Northeast Region
10 Causeway St
Room 501
Boston, MA 02222

NOV 14 2018

Courtney Hawkins, Director
Department of Human Services
Louis Pasteur Building
57 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920



Dear Director Hawkins:

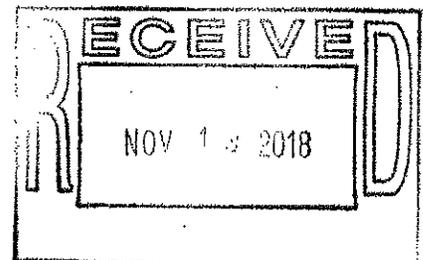
This letter is to confirm the scheduling of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 review of your agency's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Quality Control (QC) sampling procedures and data management systems. This review will take place on November 19, 2018.

This review is mandated by 7 CFR 275.3 (c)(i)(e) (iv) and requires our office to review your agency's sampling procedures, estimation procedures, and system for data management to ensure compliance with sections 275.11, 276.12 and 275.13 of the regulations, as well as the FNS Handbook 311, policy memoranda, and your State's FNS-approved sampling plan. FNS is cognizant that the state has undertaken a new system change. FNS is required to conduct a system on-site review and the state need comply.

FNS has made several efforts to support and guide the state in order to comply with the requirements. However, the state continues to cite numerous system challenges around the implementation of the new system and has been out of compliance in this area. FNS is determined to conduct the required on-site review on Monday, November 19, 2018 at the Providence Office, 206 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI. We also will not provide any more extensions.

FNS requires that the state cooperate in facilitating the onsite review, identify personnel that will be available, and provide resources, and logistics to help conduct the review. In addition, we need for you to collect and send a number of data files (as outlined by FNS NERO statistician) and send them to us for a preliminary desk review.

The review will cover a number of areas: the completeness and accuracy of your active and negative case frames; the procedures for sample selection; disposition and tracking of QC case reviews, and the reporting of results into the Federal SNAP-QCS system.



Thank you for your cooperation in this effort, and we look forward to working with you and your team. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Solomon Mezgebu by phone at (617) 565-1607 or by email at Solomon.Mezgebu@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bonnie Brathwaite', written over a horizontal line.

Bonnie Brathwaite, Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Northeast Region

Enclosure:

cc: Iwona Ramian
Dana Denman
Julie Penta
Kim Nikolaidis