



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
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For Immediate Release: September 22, 2017

DCF TO INITIATE DISASTER SNAP FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN 48 COUNTIES

~Food for Florida sites will assist individuals and families recovering from Hurricane Irma~

TALLAHASSEE - The Department of Children and Families (DCF), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), will implement the **Food for Florida** Disaster Food Assistance Program in 48 counties to assist victims of Hurricane Irma. Details on local Food for Florida sites will be posted on the Food for Florida [website](#) as they become available.

"We are working around the clock to provide relief to those affected by Hurricane Irma damage," said DCF Secretary Mike Carroll. "We will continue to stand side-by-side with those who need us as they get back on their feet. We encourage those in need of food assistance to pre-register if possible through the website so we can quickly serve those in need."

To qualify for the Food for Florida Disaster Food Assistance program, applicants must have lived or worked in one of the counties declared for FEMA Individual Assistance on September 5, and not be receiving food assistance through the regular Food Assistance Program. Additionally, eligible individuals and families must have suffered a disaster-related loss, such as damage to their homes or self-employment property, loss of food, reduction or loss of income, or have incurred other disaster related expenses. Applicants must also be financially eligible. DCF will provide or mail Electronic Benefits Transfer cards to eligible individuals and families to use at authorized USDA food retailers. The program counts only income and expenses from September 5 through October 4, 2017.

Food for Florida pre-registration will be available on the Food for Florida [website](#) and open for people in need of food assistance in eligible counties through October 30. Food for Florida sites in Pinellas, Bradford, Union, Alachua, Lake, Sumter, and Citrus counties will open next week. Individuals who lived or worked in these counties can pre-register beginning today at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration for other eligible counties will be available prior to the local sites opening. Individuals, families, and authorized representatives that pre-register must still visit a Food for Florida site, listed on the Food for Florida [website](#), to be interviewed. Individuals may also apply at the Food for Florida site locations without pre-registering. You must have a valid Florida Driver License or Florida Identification card.

Visit the Food for Florida [website](#) for more information on pre-registration, site locations, and hours of operation.

Contact: DCF Communications, (850) 717-4450

Website: <https://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/fff/>

Marion County Dates: October 14 – October 18 **Times:** 7AM – 6PM

Location: Marion County Multi-Purpose Room (Next to Jail Visitation)

Address: 700 NW 30th Ave, Ocala, FL 34475