



March 16, 2020

This message is being sent to all members of the Central Texas Food Bank Partner Agency network.

COVID-19 Update

Partner Agencies:

The following are important updates regarding operations during coronavirus (COVID-19), effective March 16, 2020.

- We have received new temporary guidance from the Texas Department of Agriculture regarding the distribution of TEFAP foods. Here is that information from TDA:

As concerns grow regarding the spreading of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on the ongoing need to continue operations in providing food assistance to Texas communities, the Texas Department of Agriculture is issuing the following flexibilities to TEFAP distributions:

1) To assist with supporting a “no contact” distribution model, signatures are temporarily NOT required from TEFAP participants/proxies. Site Coordinators must still obtain federally required intake criteria to properly determine and document eligibility. [A template intake form is provided for optional use.](#)

2) These flexibilities are approved statewide. Prior approval for specific site distributions utilizing these flexibilities is NOT required.

3) These flexibilities are effective immediately and currently ends on 4/30/2020. TDA will reassess the need for TEFAP flexibilities beyond April and will issue updated communication if warranted.

- We have updated the Alternate Distribution Models guidance we provided on March 12, 2020 to reflect these temporary changes. You can find that updated document [here](#).
- Please remember that all other rules for the use of donated product still apply. You cannot use donated product to support your organization’s own operations – i.e. take toilet paper or hand sanitizer from donations to stock your pantry bathroom, etc.

- We want to know if your distribution has changed (or is going to change) due to COVID-19. If you're closing, adjusting hours, or modifying your distribution model, please reach out to your Agency Relations Specialist with that updated information or share it via email at agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org or our partner agency hotline by calling (512) 684-2503.
- Remember, we will be sharing COVID-19 resources for partners and our most updated communications on our website [here](#).
- Finally, we wanted to announce that the 2020 Partner Agency Conference scheduled for late May is postponed. We are working on assessing when a feasible rescheduled date will be and will share that information as soon as it is available. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we work through this unprecedented situation.

Thank you for all you are doing for our neighbors who need us now more than ever. We appreciate your partnership and are grateful to be by your side in the fight against hunger.

Contact The Team

By phone:

(512) 684 - 2503

By email:

agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org

"To nourish hungry people and lead the community in the fight against hunger."

[Unsubscribe](#)
[Central Texas Food Bank](#)
6500 Metropolis Drive, Austin, Texas 78744