Reply to
Attn. of: SP 98-01
CACFP-535
SFSP-323

Subject: Disaster Relief Payments Excluded From Consideration
As Income in Free and Reduced Price Eligibility

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - Colorado ED, Colorado DPHE,
(Child Nutrition Programs) Iowa, Kansas, Missouri ED,
Missouri DH, Montana OPI,
Montana DPHHS, Nebraska ED,
North Dakota, South Dakota,
Utah, Wyoming ED and
Wyoming DHSS

Payments received under the Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974
("The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
Assistance Act"), as amended, by any members of households
applying for free and reduced price meal benefits, or for free
milk, must be excluded from consideration as income due to
legislative prohibition. The disaster relief payments covered
by this legislative prohibition include Federal major disaster
and emergency assistance, and "comparable disaster assistance
provided by states, local governments, and disaster assistance
organizations".

Not all disaster relief payments issued by the Federal Emergency
Management Administration (FEMA) or other agencies are excluded
under all circumstances, but only those excluded as specified by
statute. The payments that are to be excluded under the above
Act are ones issued to assist persons who are victims of a
"major disaster" or an "emergency" as defined by the Act. The
President of the United States, as part of disaster relief
procedures in specific cases, will make a determination that
there has been a "major disaster" or an "emergency", as per the
Act, and a Presidential proclamation to that effect will be
issued.

These disaster relief payments are classed with the payments
that are excluded income which are listed in the response to
question 2, page 35, of the Eligibility Guidance for School
Please contact our office if you have any questions.

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Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs