



Trade Mitigation Program Tips

History

The Trade Mitigation Program (TMP) was announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in August 2018 to assist agricultural producers impacted by foreign tariffs. The TMP does this by purchasing affected items and distributing them to a number of food distribution programs run by the USDA, like The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and Child Nutrition Programs.

Starting in December 2018, WSDA began coordinating the distribution of TMP foods through our existing network of TEFAP providers. TMP brings seldom-seen items, like frozen pork, frozen beef, fresh fruit, and fresh milk, to food pantries in Washington. In 2019, TMP provided an additional 19,937,450 pounds of food worth \$18,390,613 to Washington food pantries. Now in its second year, TMP will run at least through June but may continue through all of 2020 or beyond.



Funding

For January through June, TMP funding will continue to work the same way it has been working. You should see a similar amount of TMP funding as you have seen in the past three quarters. In all but the first quarter of TMP (January 2019 through March 2019 — Phase 1) Washington received \$2,000 dollars per TMP truck ordered. We have been ordering around 170 trucks per quarter.

The exception to this is if you have been receiving direct shipments of milk through TMP and no other direct TMP loads. The fresh milk is no longer TMP and is instead TEFAP bonus, thus these loads no longer come with TMP funds attached.



Distribution

Much of the trade food includes fresh and frozen items which can put additional strain on our distribution systems. We must continue to move all TEFAP and TMP items as quickly as we can.

Here are tips to increase your distribution of TEFAP and TMP food:

- There is no limit to the amount of TEFAP or TMP product you can distribute to clients. If you have an abundance of an item, feel free to give as much to households as they are willing to take.
- If you can, expand your hours of distribution of TEFAP. For food pantries only open once a month, opening extra days will help you serve clients who cannot visit during normal distribution hours.
- If your clients are currently only allowed to receive TEFAP foods once a month, consider allowing additional visits.



- Gather recipes for your food pantries that are easy for clients to replicate. This can help make those hard to move items more appealing. WSDA has a wealth of resources on our website at agr.wa.gov, available by searching for “Recipes and Nutrition Resources.”
- Consider sampling some of the recipes you gather. It may be easier to distribute hard to move items when clients know they can make a tasty meal with it.
- If you don't already serve meal programs in your area, consider reaching out to them.
- Meal programs are encouraged to provide additional meals to their clients.
- Harvest Against Hunger, Northwest Harvest, and other funding partners are administering a Hunger Relief Refrigerator grant initiative. The initiative provides rebates of up to \$500 toward the purchase of refrigerated and/or frozen storage units for hunger relief programs statewide. Visit www.harvestagainsthunger.org/refrigerated-capacity-grants/ for more information on this program.

Before you spend your own dollars on food, determine what foods are being ordered by TEFAP, TMP, Northwest Harvest (NWH), Food Lifeline (FLL), and Second Harvest (2H). This will ensure you don't purchase items you are already going to receive from other sources.

Inventory

Please ensure that the food you are receiving is properly received and tracked.

Contractors

- Receive direct shipments in the Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) within 48 hours.
- Pallets should be clearly labeled as TEFAP and/or TMP and stamped with the date received.
- Record TEFAP and TMP deliveries on separate inventories.
- Determine which program each item belongs to via the TEFAP and TMP Direct Shipment Workbook or your Indirect Shipment Workbook if the item came from NWH, FLL or 2H. In addition, your Bill of Lading (BOL) from NWH, FLL or 2H should also indicate the program each belongs to.
- BOL's issued to subcontractors should indicate what program each item belongs to.

Subcontractors

- You should be able to identify what program an item belongs to.
- The TEFAP subcontractor inventory report has a column to indicate if the item being reported is TMP.
- You should be able to find the program each item belongs to on the BOL you received from your contractor.

Training

WSDA hosts webinars via GoToMeeting. These sessions cover:

- Using TEFAP and TMP inventory forms for both contractor and subcontractors.
- Using CSFP inventory forms for both contractors and subcontractors.
- WBSCM receiving for TEFAP and CSFP contractors.
- Adding new people to your origination in WBSCM.

If you are interested in any of the above training, please email jscovel@agr.wa.gov to contact WSDA food assistance specialist James Scovel.

Additional

Please note that some items have changed over time from TMP to TEFAP including January 2020 grapes and the fresh milk for January, February, and March. These items are now TEFAP Bonus and not TMP.