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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

## Drought Food Assistance Program (DFAP) Fact Sheet

**DFAP** is the temporary program developed in response to Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.'s Drought Emergency Declaration in January 2014. DFAP is designed to provide food assistance to drought-affected communities that suffer high levels of unemployment.

**State Funding** for the DFAP is part of the \$687 million drought relief package signed by the Governor on March 1, 2014. SB 103 provides up to \$25 million to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the drought food assistance effort.

**Distribution** of the DFAP food will begin in May. DFAP food initially will be provided by the California Emergency Foodlink, the non-profit CDSS contractor which normally purchases and distributes USDA food statewide. During the first phase of drought food assistance, Foodlink will procure, pre-package and distribute DFAP food boxes to food banks in those counties identified by the Governor's Drought Task Force as being the most severely affected by the drought. These food banks will need to have their DFAP drought action plan approved by CDSS in order to receive this assistance.

**Drought Conditions** already have led to 21 counties being designated as exceptionally affected and another 35 counties being designated as extremely affected by the drought. These designations reflect available water as measured by indicators such as topsoil moisture, vegetation, snow water content, river basin precipitation, surface water supply, and groundwater stores. Highly agriculture-dependent areas facing exceptional or extreme drought will have reduced farm related employment, leading to greater economic distress and a need for food assistance.

**Counties Receiving DFAP** are those with unemployment rates that were above the state-wide average in 2013 and which have a higher share of agricultural workers than California as a whole. For 2013, the average unemployment rate for California was 8.9 percent, and the share of workers employed in agriculture was 2.64 percent.

Identified counties include Amador, Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, San Benito, San Joaquin, Santa Cruz, Sierra, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba. This list is subject to change as more information about drought impacts becomes available during 2014, including the results of a University of California, Davis study that is currently underway to help define and identify the economic impacts of the drought.

**Community Outreach** is a significant feature of DFAP. Participating food banks will inform affected households of the location and availability of DFAP food distributions. Food banks are expected to collaborate with other local community organizations that

may be engaged with these families. Eligible households with longer-term needs also will be offered information and assistance in applying for CalFresh ([www.calfresh.ca.gov](http://www.calfresh.ca.gov)) which is a federal program designed to help children and needy families access to healthier food.

**Household DFAP Eligibility** is based on a self-certification process requiring recipients to identify themselves as the head of a household in an affected community where the household's unemployment or underemployment is directly related to the drought.

**DFAP Food Boxes** are prepackaged, weigh approximately 25 pounds and contain nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food, designed to provide food for a household of four people for about five days. Contents of the food box include:

Apple Sauce	Vegetable and Chicken Noodle Soup
Carrots	Peanut Butter
Green Beans	Pinto Beans
Whole Kernel Corn	Rice
Whole Tomatoes	Spaghetti
Tomato Sauce	Oatmeal

Individual food banks may be able to supplement the food boxes with produce and other food items, if available.

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