

State agency means the agency of a State designated by the State to administer the Program; or an Indian tribe, band or group recognized by the Department of the Interior; or an Intertribal council or group recognized by the Department of the Interior and which has an ongoing relationship with Indian tribes, bands or groups for other purposes and has contracted with them to administer the Program; or the appropriate area office of the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services.

State Agency Plan of Program Operation and Administration (State Plan) means the document which, as required by §247.5 describes the manner in which the State agency intends to implement and operate all aspects of Program administration within its jurisdiction.

Supplemental foods means foods donated by the Department for use by eligible persons in low-income groups who are vulnerable to malnutrition.

WIC Program means the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (7 CFR part 246).

[46 FR 6341, Jan. 21, 1981, as amended at 48 FR 29124, June 24, 1983; 51 FR 32900, Sept. 17, 1986; 53 FR 4838, Feb. 18, 1988]

§247.3 Administration.

(a) *Delegation of Authority to FCS.* Within the Department, FCS shall act on behalf of the Department in the administration of the Program. Within FCS, SFPD and the Regional Offices are responsible for Program administration. FCS will provide assistance to State and local agencies and evaluate all levels of Program operations to assure that the goals of the Program are achieved in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

(b) *Delegation of authority to State agency.* The State agency is responsible for all operations under the Program within its jurisdiction and shall administer the Program in accordance with the requirements of this part, FMC 74-4, A-90, A-95, A-102, A-110, and 7 CFR part 250 subchapter B where applicable. The State agency shall provide guidance to local agencies on all aspects of Program operations. If distribution of supplemental foods or other Program operations at the State level are per-

formed by an agency of the State other than the State agency, the State agency shall enter into a written agreement with the other agency. The agreement shall outline the responsibilities of each agency under the Program and shall be included in the State Plan. In addition, when a State agency enters into an agreement with a distributing agency, the distributing agency still must enter into a separate agreement with the Department as required by 7 CFR part 250 subchapter B, Food Distribution.

(c) *Agreement and State plan.* Each State agency desiring to administer the Program shall annually submit a State Plan and enter into a written agreement with the Department for the administration of the Program in the jurisdiction of the State agency in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(d) *Delegation of authority to local agency.* The local agency shall provide Program benefits to participants in the most effective and efficient manner, and shall comply with this part and the State Plan.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0584-0063)

[46 FR 6341, Jan. 21, 1981, as amended at 47 FR 746, Jan. 7, 1982]

§247.4 Donation of supplemental foods.

The Department shall donate supplemental foods for use in the Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of this part and with the terms and conditions applicable to distributing agencies under 7 CFR part 250 subchapter B, Food Distribution Regulations, as long as these provisions are not inconsistent with this part. The State agency is strictly liable to FCS for losses of supplemental foods donated by the Department and shall safeguard items from theft, spoilage, other damage or destruction or other loss. If supplemental foods donated by the Department are lost through any cause, prior to issuance to the participant, the State agency shall provide replacement in kind or submit payment to FCS in accordance with §250.6(m) under 7 CFR part 250 subchapter B, Food Distribution regulations.