

**PART 253—ADMINISTRATION OF
THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PRO-
GRAM FOR HOUSEHOLDS ON IN-
DIAN RESERVATIONS**

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§ 253.1 General purpose and scope.

This part describes the terms and conditions under which: commodities (available under part 250 of this chapter) may be distributed to households on or near all or any part of any Indian reservation, the program may be administered by capable Indian tribal organizations, and funds may be obtained from the Department for the costs incurred in administering the program. This part also provides for the concurrent operation of the Food Distribution Program and the Food Stamp Program on Indian reservations when such concurrent operation is requested by an ITO.

§ 253.2 Definitions.

(a) *Exercises governmental jurisdiction* means the active exercise of the legislative, executive or judicial powers of government by an Indian tribal organization.

(b) *Food distribution program* means a food distribution program for households on Indian reservations operated pursuant to sections 4(b) and 1304(a) of Pub. L. 95-113.

(c) *Indian tribal household* means a household in which at least one household member is recognized as a tribal member by any Indian tribe, as defined in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Indian tribe* means (1) any Indian tribe, Band, or other organized Indian group, for example, a Rancheria, Pueblo, or colony, and including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation (established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688)), and that is on a reservation and recognized as eligible for Federal programs and services provided to Indians because of their status as Indians; or (2) any Indian tribe or Band on a reservation holding a treaty with a State government.

(e) *Indian tribal organization (ITO)* means: (1) The recognized governing body of any Indian tribe on a reservation; or (2) the tribally recognized intertribal organization which the recognized governing bodies of two or more Indian tribes on a reservation authorize to operate the Food Stamp Program or a Food Distribution Program on their behalf.

(f) *Overissuance* means the dollar value of commodities issued to a household that exceeds the dollar value of commodities it was eligible to receive.

(g) *Reservation* means the geographically defined area or areas over which an ITO exercises governmental jurisdiction so long as such area or areas are legally recognized by the Federal or a State government as being set aside for the use of Indians.

(h) *State* means any one of the fifty States, the District of Columbia, and the reservation of an Indian tribe whose ITO meets the requirements of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 for participation as a State agency.

(i) *State agency* means:

(1) The agency of State government, including the local offices thereof, which enters into an agreement with FNS for the distribution of commodities on all or part of an Indian reservation, and

(2) The ITO of any Indian tribe, determined by the Department to be capable of effectively administering a Food Distribution Program, which enters into an agreement with FNS for the distribution of commodities on all or part of an Indian reservation.