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# Form FNS-209 Instructions (12-08)

Click this link to open the PDF file containing the FNS-209 (12-08) form and instructions in a new window: [FNS-209.pdf](#)

## FNS-209 INSTRUCTIONS

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This report shall cover the State's activities relating to recipient claims during the report quarter and the status of claims from previous reports. Submission to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of a consolidated State level report is required. Each State agency (SA) shall prepare an original and two copies. The original and one copy shall be submitted to the FNS Regional office so that it will be received in that office by the 30th day following the end of the report quarter. State agencies shall retain the second copy for audit purposes. The report must be submitted even if no payments are collected during the quarter.

#### Line 1a State

Enter name of State

#### Line 1b State Code

Enter the 2-digit code of the State.

#### Line 2a Quarter Covered

Enter the code (1, 2, 3, or 4) for the Federal fiscal quarter the report covers.

#### Line 2b Fiscal Year

Enter the last two digits of the Federal fiscal year the report covers.

#### Line 3a Beginning Balance

Enter the number and total value of active and suspended claims as shown on the ending balance of the previous quarter's report in the appropriate categories of A-Intentional Program Violation, B-Inadvertent Household Error, or C-State Agency Administrative Error.

#### Line 3b Balance Adjustments

Use this line to adjust balances to reflect amendments or corrections which need to be made to account for incorrect or changed entries in the claims summary section of a previous quarterly report. This line shall also be used to reflect previously terminated or compromised claims that are being reactivated and to record claims that are transferred to or from another State. See "special instructions" below. DO NOT use this line to reflect a claim change from one category to another as a result of a hearing or court determination (this type of adjustment is handled in line 5). Adjustments shall be made by using (+) and (-) signs. For example, an SA administrative error claim of \$100 was incorrectly posted on a previous report as a household error claim. The adjustment in the amount column of this report would be reflected by showing a + \$100 in column C and a - \$100 in column B. Corresponding (+) or (-) adjustments must also be reflected in the number columns for categories B and C.

#### Line 4 Newly Established

Enter the number and total value of all claims established during the report quarter (including those under the minimum amount established in Section 273.18

#### Line 15 SNAP Benefits

For categories A, B and C, enter the total value of SNAP Benefits provided by the household as a form of payment for a claim. Such payments are to be recorded on the report for the quarter in which the household actually presented the SNAP Benefits as payment.

#### Line 16 Recoupment

Enter the total value of collections made through allotment reductions. DO NOT use this line to record collections made through offsetting restoration of lost benefits (this is shown on line 17).

#### Line 17 Offset

Enter the total value of collections made by offsetting restored benefits against outstanding claim balances. For example, a claim exists for a household in the amount of \$160 but it is also determined that the recipient is entitled to \$50 in restored benefits. Offsetting the restored benefits (\$50) from the claim balance (\$160) reduces the claim balance to \$110. The \$50 is the offset amount to be reported in line 17. Offsets shall be reported in the quarter in which the restored benefits are to be provided.

#### Line 18a Total

Self-explanatory.

#### Line 18b Cash Adjustments

Use this line to reflect any amendments or corrections to the collection summary of a previous report related to cash, check, or money order collections. Use (+) and (-) signs as appropriate. DO NOT use this line to reflect changes that occur because a claim was changed from one category to another due to a hearing or court determination (this type of adjustment is handled in line 19). See "special instructions" below.

#### Line 18c Non-cash Adjustments

Use this line to reflect any amendments or corrections to the collection summary of a previous report relative to the return of SNAP benefits, recoupment, or offsetting transactions. Use (+) and (-) signs as appropriate. DO NOT use this line to reflect changes that occur because a claim was changed from one category to another due to a hearing or court determination (this type of adjustment is handled in line 19). See "special instructions" below.

#### Line 19 Transfers

Use this line to reflect claims that were contained in the collection summary of a previous report and which are being transferred from one category to another because a hearing or court determination. There must be a corresponding entry on line 5 of the claims summary to reflect the transfer of the claim. Use the (+) and (-) signs as appropriate. Any other adjustments between categories are to be reflected in line 18b

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**Line 4 Newly Established**

Enter the number and total value of all claims established during the report quarter (including those under the minimum amount established in Section 273.18 (d)(1)(i)(A) of the regulations) for categories A, B and C. DO NOT use this line to report the reactivation of a previously suspended, terminated or compromised claim amount. "For the purpose of this report, a claim is established for tracking purposes as of the date of the initial demand letter or written notification".

**Line 5 Transfers (+) or (-)**

Use this line to reflect that a claim changed from one category to another solely because of a hearing or court determination. All other changes between categories are to be reflected in line 3b above. The amount of the balance due on the claim is all that should be reflected in the amount column of this line, not the amount of the original claim. Use (+) and (-) signs as appropriate. The number column must also reflect a corresponding (+) or (-) adjustment. See "special instructions" below.

**Line 6 Refunds**

Self-explanatory.

**Line 7 Total**

Self-explanatory. Be sure that (+) and (-) signs are used as appropriate.

**Line 8 Closed**

Enter the number of claims closed this quarter. For the purpose of this report, closed is defined as the State agency having received payment in full, or compromised the amount down to zero. If the amount is compromised to zero, it must also be reflected as closed in line 10. Please note that closed on this form does not include terminations (these are handled in line 9).

**Line 9 Terminated**

Enter the number and balance due of those claims which have been determined in accordance with Section 273.18(e)(3) of the regulations to be uncollectible for categories A, B and C.

**Line 10 Compromised**

Enter the number of claims compromised and the amount in accordance with Section 273.18(g)(2) and (3) by which the claim has been compromised, not the remaining balance of a particular claim. For example: Claim Amount is \$500. Household can pay \$300 over time, so the claim is compromised by \$200. The amount to be reflected in line 10 is the amount by which the claim was compromised (\$200 in this example).

**Line 11a Collections**

Self-explanatory.

**Line 11b Collection Adjustments**

Self-explanatory. Be sure that (+) and (-) signs are used as appropriate.

**Line 12 Total**

For the "number" columns, enter the sum of lines 8 and 9. For the "amount" columns, enter the sum of lines 9, 10, 11a and 11b. Be sure that (+) and (-) signs are used as appropriate.

**Line 13 Ending Balance**

Self-explanatory.

**Line 14 Cash, Check, Moneyorder**

For categories A, B and C, enter the total value of claim payments made in the form of cash, check or moneyorder. All payments are to be recorded on the report for the quarter in which the household actually presented the payment.

previous report and which are being transferred from one category to another category a hearing or court determination. There must be a corresponding entry on line 5 of the claims summary to reflect the transfer of the claim. Use the (+) and (-) signs as appropriate. Any other adjustments between categories are to be reflected in line 18b or 18c as appropriate. See "special instructions" below.

**Line 20a Cash Refunds**

Enter the value of cash refunds provided to households that overpaid claims.

**Line 20b Non-Cash Refund**

Enter the value of non-cash refunds provided to households that overpaid claims.

**Line 21 Total**

Self-explanatory. Be sure that (+) and (-) signs are used as appropriate.

**Line 22 Retention Amount**

In column A, enter 35 percent of the amount recorded on line 21, category A. In column B, enter 20 percent of the amount recorded on line 21, column B.

**Line 23 Net Cash Collections**

Enter the total value of cash funds collected: add lines 14 and 18b for categories A, B and C; then subtract line 20a for all categories. Use (+) and (-) signs as appropriate.

**Line 24 Total State Agency Retention**

Self-explanatory.

**Line 25 LOC Adjustment**

Self-explanatory, except that the entry must be reflected as a (+) or (-) figure. A negative figure represents a credit to the State agency.

**Line 26 Reimbursements**

Due FNS Enter the total value of Title IV-D child support payments due FNS in accordance with Section 276.2(e) of the regulations.

**Line 27 Billing Adjustments**

Enter the total value of collections on overissuances for which the SA has paid FNS through the FNS-46 billings or other billings that result from investigations, audits, or gross negligence charges, etc. DO NOT include collections on overissuances for which the State has paid FNS through the FNS-259 billing system. This figure represents a credit to the SA. In "Remarks" or on a separate sheet of paper identify which FNS-46 report or other billing charge was involved and provide the date the billing was paid and the value of the overissuances that were paid.

**Line 28 Total LOC Adjustment**

Enter the total amount which is obtained by adding the total shown in line 26 to the total shown in line 25 (+) or (-) and subtracting the total in line 27. Please indicate whether the amount is a negative or positive figure. If the amount remaining is a negative figure the LOC will be increased by this amount to reflect a credit to the State. If the amount remaining is a positive figure, the LOC will be reduced by this amount.

**Line 29 Remarks**

Attach a separate sheet to the FNS-209 if necessary.

**Line 30 Date**

Enter the date that the FNS-209 is signed.

**Line 31 Title**

Enter the title of the person who signs the FNS-209.

**Line 32 Signature**

The responsible Person who will certify that the information provided is correct, shall sign the form. Special Instructions for Lines 3b, 5, 18b, 18c and 19: Especially for these line items, entries must be clearly identified and explained.