

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Department of Education Announces USDA Commodity Distribution in Upcoming Drive-Through Events

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Staff Consortium **September 15, 2023**



The V.I. Department of Education State Office of Special Nutrition Programs has announced its upcoming drive-through distribution of USDA commodities for the territory. The distribution is part of the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and is open to all eligible residents in both the St. Thomas - St. John District and the St. Croix District.

Distribution Details

In the St. Thomas - St. John District, the event will take place on Saturday, September 16 at the Lockhart K-8 School. It will start at 7:00 a.m. and continue until supplies last. Similarly, in the St. Croix District, the event is scheduled for Saturday, September 23 at the St. Croix Educational Complex High School, beginning at 7:00 a.m. until supplies run out.

Eligibility Criteria

TEFAP uses income, not age, to determine program eligibility. Distribution packages will be limited to one per household. Eligible individuals or heads of households must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Gross family income must not exceed 185% of the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
2. Be a client of any income-certified assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medical Assistance Program, or be a tenant of a subsidized public housing program.
3. Self-declare their income using the self-certification portion of the application if not falling into the categories above.

Documentation Requirements

To obtain commodities, proper identification must be presented. For those completing the Self-Certification Form, information relative to gross income should be prepared. Any person unable to provide satisfactory information will not be able to receive a commodity package.

For more information, interested parties can reach out to Federal Commodities Officer, Correy Lettsome, at (340) 774-0100 ext. 2818.

Civil Rights Non-Discrimination Statement

The program adheres to Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture civil rights regulations, prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal for prior civil rights activity.

Those with disabilities requiring alternative communication means for program information or individuals requiring information in languages other than English may contact the USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Complaints of discrimination can be filed through the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form or by contacting the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.