WAC 16-740-050 Applicant eligibility criteria. (1) The applicant must have a certified form from the IRS stating nonprofit status under section 501 (c)(3), or be a public nonprofit agency, be a recognized tribe, a tribal organization with section 501 (c)(3) status, or an unrecognized tribe with section 501 (c)(3) status.

(2) The applicant for funding as lead agency must have been operating as a public nonprofit or private nonprofit with section 501 (c)(3) status for one year prior to the beginning date of the contract.

(3) The applicant for funding as a participating food bank must have been operating as a public nonprofit or private nonprofit with section 501 (c)(3) status food bank for one year prior to the beginning date of the subcontract.

(4) The applicant for funding as a food distributor must have been operating as a public nonprofit or a private nonprofit with section 501 (c)(3) status food distributor for one year prior to the beginning date of the contract.

(5) The applicant for lead agency or tribal contractor may or may not actually provide emergency food program services.

(6) The applicant must practice nondiscrimination in providing services and employment.

(7) The applicant must not require participation in a religious service as a condition of receiving emergency food or a food voucher.

(8) Applicants within a county or multicounty region, or tribes with established parameters for service, may define their service area boundaries for the purpose of equitably allocating resources. The department encourages the provider to serve the client no matter what service areas the client resides in. If appropriate, the provider may then refer the client to the agency servicing the area in which the client resides, or to the tribe which has established jurisdiction over the individual, for further assistance. Providers must practice nondiscrimination when applying their service area policies.

(9) The applicant may not charge for food or food vouchers given to a client.

[Statutory Authority: 2010 c 68 and chapter 34.05 RCW. WSR 10-20-061, § 16-740-050, filed 9/27/10, effective 10/28/10.]