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SNAP and WFNJ Updates During Coronavirus

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Updates

SNAP Benefit Changes

Temporary Emergency Supplemental Food Assistance Benefits

February 2023 was the last month households received at least \$95 in emergency benefits or the maximum benefit for your household size, whichever is greater.

Starting in March 2023, you will only receive your regular monthly benefit amount.

Additionally, starting in March 2023, all households eligible for SNAP will receive a minimum \$95 monthly benefit. If your approved monthly benefit is less than \$95, you will receive a supplemental payment to equal \$95.

Visit www.NJSNAP.gov to learn more about the SNAP program and these updates.

You can check your benefits, change your pin, report a lost, stolen or damaged card and see your transaction history quickly and securely online at www.njfamiliesfirst.com or on the ConnectEBT app. The same username and password is used for both and can be set up either on the website or on the app. You will need to verify your identity when you set up your account. The ConnectEBT app is free and available in English and Spanish. You can download it in the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).

You also can call customer service at 1-800-997-3333, however, they may be experiencing higher call volumes, so please be patient. Please do not check your balance at the grocery store where cashiers may be very busy.

If you are worried about this reduction in benefits, you should find out what other food assistance programs you may be eligible for including WIC for women and children under 5, free or reduced school meals, or the commodity supplemental food program for adults 60 years of age and over. Visit www.nj211.org/njsnap to find more information and resources.

Applying for SNAP

During this public health crisis, we have made the application process for SNAP food assistance simpler by removing some parts in the process. For example, you can apply for SNAP and sign your application by phone. And you may not be required to complete an interview to apply for SNAP.

You can apply online at NJHelps.gov or if you do not have a computer, you can apply by phone by calling your [local board of social services](#). You can also [download the application](#) and mail it into the local board of social services. Through a new online tool, SNAP applicants have the ability to upload the documentation needed for applications electronically instead of mailing or dropping off documents to the county offices.

SNAP Interim Reporting and Recertification

To stay on SNAP, there are some things you need to do periodically that you may not have been required to do during COVID-19 pandemic. These steps are no longer paused and need to be completed to continue to receive your SNAP benefits.

SNAP Interim Reporting Form (IRF)

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If you received a final notice to complete your IRF, but did not receive a form, contact DFD at 1-800-792-9773, press 1 for English or 2 for Spanish and then select option 1 for SNAP assistance. If your case has closed due to an IRF issue, please contact your [local board of social services](#) for assistance.

SNAP Recertification

When you are due for a recertification, you will receive a Notice of Expiration letter in the mail from your board of social services with your interview date. Contact your [local board of social services](#) if you have questions about your notice, if you need help completing your recertification, or if your case has closed due to a recertification issue.

More information about staying on SNAP, including about IRFs and recertification can be found in the SNAP Recipient section of www.NJSNAP.gov.

Extra Benefits for Children

New Jersey received P-EBT approval for children under the age of 6 enrolled in SNAP between September 2021 - June 2022 and for summer 2022. In addition, summer 2022 P-EBT has been approved for students in grades K-12 in the 2021 - 2022 school year who were eligible for the National School Lunch Program.

Children under the age of 6 in SNAP households:

Benefits for children under the age of 6 in SNAP households have been added to your Families First card.

School-age Children in grades K-12 in the 2021-2022 school year:

The first issuance of summer 2022 P-EBT was made in October 2022. As schools continue to collect and submit data, additional benefits will be paid in coming months.

Summer P-EBT benefits of \$391 per eligible student will be added to your Families First card for active SNAP households as a one-time payment.

Summer P-EBT benefits of \$391 per eligible student for non-SNAP recipients will be added as a one-time payment to new P-EBT cards and mailed.

Note: P-EBT cards are being processed for all students whose data was submitted by their school through February 10, 2023. Please allow a few weeks for cards to be delivered if you are not a SNAP recipient.

Keep checking back for additional information about the distribution of P-EBT benefits.

More information is available on the [P-EBT page](#).

Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Updates

WFNJ Work Activities

Work activities for WFNJ clients resumed in 2022. Your county board of social services will provide information about your work activity requirements when it is time for you to start participating.

3/3/23



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

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Or make a complaint about a child care center call

1-877-667-9845