

COVID-19 & Emergency SNAP Allotments: What You Need to Know

On April 7, 2020, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced the issuance emergency SNAP (food stamp) payments to many SNAP households to help buy food during the pandemic crisis.

Will I get extra SNAP benefits?

If your monthly SNAP benefit *is less than* the Max SNAP for your household size in the table below, you will get an extra benefit on your SNAP card. If you get the Max SNAP benefit, you will **NOT** get extra SNAP. This is because of a decision made by USDA (the federal government), not ODJFS.

Household size	Max. SNAP	Examples	
		Supplement	No Supplement
1	\$194	Family A gets \$200/mo in SNAP for one adult and 2 kids. Since this is less than the Max SNAP of \$509, Family A will get a SNAP supplement of \$309.	Family B gets \$509/mo in SNAP for one adult and 2 kids. This family will NOT get any extra SNAP because they get the Max SNAP for 3.
2	\$355		
3	\$509	Individual A gets \$16/mo in SNAP. The Max SNAP for one is \$194. This individual will get a supplement of \$178.	Individual B gets \$194/mo in SNAP. This individual will NOT get any extra SNAP because they get the Max SNAP.
4	\$646		
5	\$768		
6	\$921		
7	\$1,018		
8	\$1,164		
Each add'l member	+\$146		

If I qualify for extra SNAP, when will I get it?

- ⇒ During the first two weeks of April, the first extra SNAP payment will be added to your SNAP card for households enrolled in SNAP in March 2020.
- ⇒ A second extra SNAP payment will be added to SNAP households enrolled in April. **Details unknown at this time about the date this will happen.**

How can I learn how much I get in SNAP and if I get extra SNAP?

You can check your balance and your monthly SNAP benefit amount at: Ohio Benefits at **844-640-OHIO**. Enter your SSN and DOB to hear an automated message with your monthly SNAP benefit amount OR call EBT Customer Service at **866-386-3071** to check your balance.

Should I call my local JFS office?

You do NOT need to call JFS to receive extra SNAP payments. They will automatically get added to your EBT card. Local offices are very busy right now helping new households apply for SNAP and wait times may be very long.

What if I need help food shopping?

Any member of your household can use the SNAP EBT card to food shop. Their name does NOT need to be on the card. You can also give your EBT card temporarily to a *trusted friend or relative* to food shop for you. The store should not inspect the card or refuse to serve any customer with an EBT card and PIN.

Can I order my groceries online and pick up outside the grocery store?

Yes, if your local grocery store has curbside pickup. Many grocery stores do not yet have this option. Contact your local store for information.

What if I do not get SNAP?

If your gross income is below 130% of the federal poverty line (see chart below) you should apply for SNAP. If you are approved, you may get an extra SNAP payment this month. To apply:

- Apply online at **benefits.ohio.gov** OR
- Apply over the phone at **1-844-640-OHIO**

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income Limit*
1	\$1,354
2	\$1,832
3	\$2,311
4	\$2,790
5	\$3,269
6	\$3,748
7	\$4,227
8	\$4,705
Each additional	+\$479
*Households with individuals age 60+ or disabled aren't subject to this limit.	

This informational bulletin was prepared by Rachel Cahill, Consultant for the Benefits Access Partnership at the Center for Community Solutions. This information is up-to-date as of April 7, 2020. Information is subject to change.