

State providing extra SNAP for 3 months starting in April 2023

During COVID, Massachusetts households have been getting extra Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Action by the federal government ended these extra benefits on March 2, 2023.

The state is providing extra SNAP benefits in April, May, and June to help families buy food and provide an off-ramp from the federal payments.

These extra payments will be put on EBT cards: April 7, May 2, and June 2 for your prior month's benefits. For example, in April you will get extra SNAP for your March SNAP benefits.

The state-funded extra benefits are up to 40% of the difference between your normal monthly SNAP benefit amount and the maximum SNAP amount for your household size, with a minimum amount of \$38 a month. This means if you get the maximum SNAP benefit amount for your household size, you will get \$38 a month in extra SNAP.

Starting in July, your household will get only one SNAP payment. That amount is your normal monthly benefit. You can get your normal amount on DTA Connect or listen to the information about your case by calling 877-382-2363.

Unused SNAP benefits roll over month to month. Reminder to change the PIN on your EBT card regularly to protect your benefits. Never provide your personal information, EBT card number, or PIN to unidentified callers or in a link provided via text or email.

How can I get the most out of my SNAP?

Maximum SNAP benefits are:

Household size	Maximum Monthly SNAP Benefit
1	\$281
2	\$516
3	\$740
4	\$939
5	\$1,116
6	\$1,339
7	\$1,480
Each additional person	+ \$211

If your normal SNAP amount is lower than the above, your SNAP may go up if you tell DTA about these costs:

- Medical costs over \$35 a month for anyone in your SNAP household who is 60 or older or has a disability,
- Increase to your housing costs (rent/mortgage), and
- Child or disabled adult care costs (if anyone in your SNAP household is working, looking for work, or in school).

We don't need proof from you about these costs – just tell us the information. If we need any proof, we will tell you.

Also, tell DTA if your income has gone down.

Tell DTA about costs that may increase your SNAP by:

- Writing down the information and send it to DTA through <u>DTA Connect</u>
- Calling the DTA Assistance Line at 877-382-2363
- Visiting a local DTA office
- Faxing the written information to DTA Document Processing Center, 617-887-8765
- Working with one of DTA's over 100 SNAP outreach community partners
- CONTACT CACCI 508-771-1727 A SNAP SPECIALIST IS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU.

Learn more about contacting DTA at Mass.gov/ContactDTA.

Need more help?

- HIP puts money back on your EBT card when you use SNAP to buy local fruits and vegetables from HIP farm vendors, up to \$40, \$60 or \$80 a month depending on your household size. Learn more about HIP at Mass.gov/HIP
- Get help with 2022 taxes and any COVID stimulus or Child Tax Credit money you are owed: FindYourFunds.org
- Rent or mortgage help: Mass.gov/covidhousinghelp or call 2-1-1
- Fuel Assistance help paying for heat: Toapply.org/MassLIHEAP or call 800-632-8175
- Money to help pay for the internet or a computer: <u>GetInternet.gov</u>, AccedeAInternet.gov
- If you have children/are pregnant and have no income or low income, you may be able
 to get TAFDC cash benefits. If you are 65 or older or disabled with no or very low
 income, you may be able to get EAEDC cash benefits. Learn more and apply:
 DTAConnect.com
- Community Food Resources: call or text Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline 1-800-645-8333
- If you have children under age 5/are pregnant or breastfeeding, you may be eligible for the WIC nutrition program: Mass.gov/WIC or call 800-942-1007
- All K-12 students can get free school meals this school year