

SCDSS – SNAP/Food and Nutrition Programs

Web address: <https://dss.sc.gov/assistance-programs/snap/>

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Geographic Area Covered: Statewide

Mission: Households, individuals, seniors and the homeless may all be eligible for SNAP benefits. People who are working and need help to stretch their income to purchase food may also be eligible for SNAP benefits as well as those receiving Social Security benefits, child support or unemployment. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, formerly known as Food Stamp benefits, provide low-income households with nutrition assistance by increasing the households food purchasing power.

The SNAP Nutrition Education program provides activities and trainings to promote healthy eating habits and a physical active lifestyle through:

- Cooking and food demonstrations
- Recipes
- Education
- Grocery Store Tours

Services Provided:

SNAP:

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, formerly known as Food Stamp benefits, provide low-income households with nutrition assistance by increasing the households food purchasing power.
- The income limit for SNAP is approximately 130 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). For example, a family of three whose income is \$26,556 per year (\$2,213 per month) or less may qualify for benefits. A single person who earns \$15,684 per year (\$1,307/month) or less may qualify for SNAP.
- The average monthly SNAP benefit in South Carolina is \$261.
- Households can purchase food such as breads and cereals, non-alcoholic beverages, fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, dairy products and more with SNAP benefits. For a full listing of SNAP eligible foods visit www.fns.usda.gov.

Healthy Bucks:

- The “Healthy Bucks” program allows SNAP recipients to obtain additional fresh fruits and vegetables when they use their SNAP benefits to purchase fresh produce at participating farmers markets.
- SNAP recipients who purchase at least \$5 with their SNAP EBT card at participating locations receive \$10 in Healthy Bucks tokens to purchase additional fresh fruits and vegetable.

Senior Farmer’s Market

- The Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) is a seasonal USDA grant program to provide participants with fresh, nutritious, unprocessed fruits and vegetables from local farmers’ markets and to increase awareness and use of community markets. The program provides low-income seniors age 60 and older in

selected areas with SFMNP checks that may be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmers' markets authorized to accept the checks. The Program runs from May 1st through October 15th each year. Participants receive 5 SFMNP checks worth \$5.00 each for a total benefit of \$25.00 that can be used at participating farmers' market to purchase produce.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

- TEFAP helps to supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. Food include non-fat dry and evaporated milk, juice, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, egg mix, peanut butter, dry beans or peas, canned meat and canned fruits and vegetables.

Commodities Supplemental Program

- The Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) program works to improve the health of participants by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA commodity foods which are supplied to DSS. DSS then provides the food to food banks that serve SC, who in turn distribute the food to local community organizations. Program participants receive a monthly package of food and nutritional education. Individuals over age 60 may be eligible if they meet income and residency requirements.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

- The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program that gives meal reimbursements to child care centers and adult day care centers for serving nutritious meals.

After School Snack Program

- The After School Snack Program provides reimbursement to after school care organizations to ensure that each child participating in their program receives a healthy, nutritious snack. School-aged children between the ages of 5-18 are eligible to receive these services. The meals are provided by the approved afterschool care organizations who are a public or private nonprofit organization whose programs must be located in a school area where at least 50% or more of the children in its attendance are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

SC SNAP Education and Obesity Prevention Program

- The SNAP Nutrition Education program provides a combination of nutrition education, health promotion, and policy, system, and environmental support to low-income communities to improve the likelihood that families who are receiving SNAP (food stamp) benefits will make healthier food and physical activity choices.

Emergency Shelter Food Program

- The Emergency Shelter Program (ESP) provides reimbursement to emergency and homeless shelters to ensure that each child participating in their program receives healthy, nutritious meals. Children ages 18 and under are eligible to receive these services. The meals are provided by the approved emergency and homeless shelters which include family shelters, battered women's shelters, and other facilities whose primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter to homeless families with children.

DSS Partners with the following organizations to provide SNAP Education services statewide. If you are interested in participating in the SNAP Ed activities happening in your area, please contact the group responsible for your county:

- **South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control** - Bamberg, Calhoun, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Fairfield, Florence, Hampton, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, Sumter, Union, Williamsburg, and Marion.

- **Clemson University Youth Learning Institute** - Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Anderson, Barnwell, Cherokee, Clarendon, Edgefield, Greenwood, Greenville, Laurens, McCormick, Spartanburg, Union, Oconee, and Pickens.
- **Lowcountry Food Bank** - Beaufort, Berkley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, and Williamsburg.