NOTICE TO ALL RECIPIENTS OF Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will automatically issue an Emergency supplemental SNAP benefit to households not already receiving the maximum benefit. This action is part of a provision set forth by the Families First Corona Virus Response Act of 2020. Households currently not receiving the maximum benefit will receive the Emergency supplemental SNAP benefit to increase their current benefit amount to the maximum amount for their household size. New York State OTDA will issue the Emergency supplemental benefits to all SNAP households **NOT** already receiving the maximum benefit for the month of June 2020.

Households who already received the maximum benefit amount for their household size in June 2020 are not eligible for this supplement.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM ALLOTMENT
1	\$194
2	\$355
3	\$509
4	\$646
5	\$768
6	\$921
7	\$1,018
8	\$1,164
For each additional	\$146
member	

See the table below for the maximum benefit allotment per household size.

Eligible Cases: SNAP cases that received benefits in June 2020 and did not receive the maximum benefit amount for their household size, will receive the supplemental SNAP benefit.

Supplements will be automatically issued and available on your EBT card. You do <u>NOT</u> have to apply for or contact your local office about these supplements.

Note: This is a one-time payment. Recipients will receive their regular SNAP benefit amount beginning in July. There is no right to a fair hearing for those receiving their regular benefit in July that is less than the maximum benefit solely because they are no longer receiving the supplemental allotment.

Frequently Asked Questions for the Emergency Allotment of SNAP Benefits

Answers to many commonly asked questions about the Supplemental Emergency Allotment (EA) of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits.

What are supplemental EA SNAP benefits?

The Families First Act (FFA) is a federal law that was passed to respond to the effects of the public health emergency caused by COVID-19. The law authorized the issuance of emergency supplemental benefits to households receiving SNAP. Based on the law, states are to issue supplemental SNAP benefits, **up to the maximum allowable SNAP benefit for a household's size**, during the emergency or disaster declaration. New York is issuing the supplemental benefits for the months of March, April, May and June 2020. Only households whose SNAP benefit **for** the months of March, April, May and/or June was **less than** the maximum benefit amount for their household's size will get a supplemental EA SNAP benefit.

Who qualifies for the supplemental EA SNAP benefits?

If your household received a SNAP benefit for March, April, May and/or June that was **less than** the maximum benefit amount for your household's size, then you qualify for, and will automatically get, a supplemental EA SNAP benefit. The maximum monthly SNAP benefit amounts by household size are listed below:

SNAP Household Size	Maximum Monthly Benefit Amount
1	\$194
2	\$355
3	\$509
4	\$646
5	\$768
6	\$921
7	\$1,018
8	\$1,164
Each additional person	\$146

Maximum Monthly SNAP Benefits

What if my household already got the maximum benefit for my household's size for March, April, May and/or June?

If you got the maximum SNAP benefit for your household's size for March, April, May and/or June, then you will **not** get a supplemental EA SNAP benefit for the month you receive the maximum benefit.

How much will I receive in supplemental EA SNAP benefits?

SNAP households are eligible to receive supplemental EA SNAP benefits for March, April, May and/or June 2020 in the amount that will bring them up to the maximum SNAP monthly benefit amount for a household of their size.

For example, a household of 4 people may currently receive a maximum monthly allotment of \$646. If that household received \$400 in monthly SNAP benefits, they will receive supplemental EA SNAP benefits of \$246.

Do I need to apply for supplemental EA SNAP benefits?

No, you do **not** need to apply for supplemental EA SNAP benefits. If you already get SNAP and received a SNAP benefit for March, April, May and/or June that is **less than** the maximum benefit amount for your household's size, the EA benefits automatically will be made available on your EBT card.

If you are **not** currently enrolled in SNAP, the quickest way to apply for SNAP benefits is online at: <u>www.myBenefits.ny.gov</u> or <u>https://access.nyc.gov/</u> (if you live in New York City).

When will I receive my emergency SNAP benefits if I am eligible?

Supplemental EA SNAP benefits for June will be available on you EBT card by July 4, 2020. If you were eligible for supplemental EA SNAP benefits in March, April and/or May, they were made available on your EBT card by the end of May. For more information on how to check your available SNAP balance on your EBT card visit: http://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/ebt/.

What can I purchase with my emergency SNAP supplemental benefits?

The supplemental EA benefits are SNAP benefits. Like regular SNAP benefits, the supplemental benefits can be used to purchase food at authorized retail food stores. A detailed list of food items that may be purchased with SNAP benefits can be found at: <u>http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/eligible-food-items/</u>.

Do I have to use my emergency SNAP supplemental benefits right away?

No. Unused SNAP benefits, including supplements, remain available and accessible on your EBT card for up to one year from the date they are issued.