



SNAP Funding and Food Assistance Benefits During Federal Shutdown
Questions and Answers
Updated November 6, 2025, 6 PM

On [November 3, Governor Moore issued Executive Order 01.01.2025.22](#) providing that Maryland will issue supplemental state benefits for emergency food assistance for current Maryland SNAP customers. These supplemental state benefits will provide November benefits at 50% of Maryland SNAP households' October 2025 benefits, and will help Marylanders put food on kitchen tables.

The state supplement is in response to the federal government's announcement that it will provide reduced November SNAP benefits after recent court orders. We project that the Maryland state supplemental benefits will amount to up to \$62 million from the State's [Fiscal Responsibility Fund](#).

Federal SNAP benefit funding has been the subject of two federal lawsuits, with new developments on a daily, if not hourly basis. Maryland is a party to one of the lawsuits. Federal SNAP guidance to states has changed rapidly and unpredictably. In line with Governor Moore's commitment to Marylanders, we will take state action to ensure that food is on kitchen tables.

Is the federal government funding November SNAP benefits?

This is uncertain, with fast-moving, daily developments in litigation and administrative agency guidance. The federal government previously decided to stop funding SNAP benefits on November 1st.

On October 31st, two federal district courts ordered the Trump Administration to use federal SNAP contingency funds to honor its promise to Americans. Maryland is a party to the multi-state federal lawsuit. On November 3rd, the Trump Administration said that it would provide November SNAP benefits at 50% of SNAP households' current benefit amount.

As a result, [Governor Moore issued an emergency order](#) later that day to make state funds available to help Marylanders access food in November.

The Trump Administration has continued to make conflicting statements and [issued varying guidance](#) on the amount and timing of November SNAP benefits following the October 31st court orders. On November 6th, a federal court ordered the Trump Administration to fully fund SNAP benefits. The Trump Administration appealed the order.

What is the timeline for Marylanders?

1. Maryland supplement for emergency food assistance benefits

- a. This state supplement is calculated at 50% of a SNAP household's benefit.
- b. Marylanders will receive the state supplement beginning on November 11th. Households that would have normally received benefits between November 4 and November 10 (with last names AAA-HAX) will receive the state supplement on November 11. Households that are normally due to receive benefits after November 11 will receive their state supplement based on their regular schedule, and [continuing daily based on this release schedule](#).

2. Federally funded SNAP Benefits

- a. We will begin issuing federal SNAP benefits after we receive federal funds.
- b. We will update information on federal funding for SNAP benefits as we learn more information.
- c. Due to pending litigation, and the near daily and conflicting changes in federal guidance, these federal benefit amounts and issuances may change.

Will Maryland SNAP customers receive all of their November benefits?

Maryland is working to ensure that our customers receive food benefits amounts as close to their October 2025 SNAP benefit amount as possible. Through [Governor Moore's emergency state action](#), we will provide at least 50% of current customers' October 2025 SNAP benefit amount using a supplemental state food assistance benefit on their Maryland Independence EBT Cards. The supplemental state food assistance benefit may be used for all food-related expenses, similar to SNAP benefits, at all Maryland SNAP retailers.

We will deliver federal SNAP benefits as quickly as possible when we receive federal funds.

Will November SNAP benefits be delivered on time?

Following [Governor Moore's executive order](#), current SNAP customers will receive a state supplement benefit on their Maryland Independence EBT cards in the amount of 50% of their October 2025 benefit amount starting November 11.

As soon as federal funds for SNAP benefits are available for our current SNAP customers, we will add funds to their Maryland Independence EBT cards. The federal government's decision to stop funding SNAP benefits on November 1 significantly delayed when states can issue SNAP benefits.

We recognize the federal government delay is a tremendous burden for Maryland families and we are working quickly to ensure customers receive their state supplemental benefits as soon as possible.

[SNAP benefits are issued on a staggered schedule between the 4th and 23rd of each month, based on the first three letters of the customer's last name.](#) On average, approximately 30,000 customers receive a benefit replenishment each day during the monthly issuance period.

Federal SNAP benefits funding is an evolving situation, and we will continue to share information as we learn more from the courts and the federal government.

We invite customers to continue to keep their information up to date, check their eligibility, and apply for help at MarylandBenefits.gov.

What if I have a pending SNAP application or if I am considering applying for SNAP?

We will continue to approve new SNAP applications as well as redeterminations (renewals). Customers must continue to follow program requirements to receive SNAP benefits as determined by [the latest USDA guidance and federal funding](#). New applications will not be funded until the federal government shutdown ends.

If you applied in October, you will receive your prorated October SNAP benefit and a state supplemental at 50% of your full October benefit once your application is approved.

We invite customers to continue to keep their information up to date, check their eligibility, and apply for help at MarylandBenefits.gov.

Will other cash benefits be impacted?

No. Other direct cash assistance programs like Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP), Public Assistance to Adults (PAA), Emergency Assistance for Families & Children (EAFC), and Refugee Cash Assistance will be delivered on [schedule](#) for November and are not currently impacted by the federal government shutdown.

Are there other food resources people can access for help during the federal shutdown?

We invite Marylanders to lean on available resources, including:

- Food pantries and community kitchens including [the Maryland Food Bank](#) and [Capital Area Food Bank](#);
- [211 Maryland](#);
- [Support in finding a new job](#) through 33 [American Job Centers](#) and a specialized [Professional Outplacement Assistance Center](#), including individualized career guidance, résumé workshops, mock interviews, career and skills assessment, effective job search strategies, and networking support;

- [Additional career resources](#), such as information on transitioning to a teaching career;
- [A weekly virtual workshop](#) designed specifically for former federal employees and federal contractors, and attended by more than 1,700 workers to date;
- [Job fairs and recruitment events](#);
- [Unemployment insurance](#);
- [Resources for veterans](#);
- [Legal resources](#); and
- Resources related to [health coverage](#), [housing](#), and [food, cash, and other assistance](#).

What other help can Marylanders expect during the federal government shutdown?

On October 30, 2025, Governor Moore announced [a \\$10 million emergency grant from the Fiscal Responsibility Fund](#) to fight food insecurity.

The Governor's [declaration of a State of Emergency](#) and [Executive Order authorizing the emergency grant funds](#) charges the Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure the data-driven, equitable distribution of resources to hundreds of eligible food distribution organizations statewide. The [goal of the state emergency funds is to get food on the tables of Marylanders](#) impacted by the federal government shutdown and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's delayed release and reduced November SNAP benefits.

Of the \$10 million, we are allocating:

- A. **\$9 million to the Maryland Food Bank (MFB) and the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB)** through modifications of our current grant agreements for further distribution to their existing community food bank, pantry, and mobile distribution partners statewide.
- B. **\$1 million to augment and fully fund current state fiscal year 2026 Maryland Emergency Food Program (MEFP)** grantees that serve as community pantries and emergency hunger relief statewide. Current MEFP grantees do not need to take further action. DHS will fully fund MEFP proposals, as submitted, and continue disbursing funds as rapidly as possible.

In addition to [Maryland's \\$62 million supplemental state emergency food benefits](#) and [Baltimore City](#), [Anne Arundel](#), [Baltimore](#), and [Montgomery](#) Counties' emergency food bank assistance efforts, we will work together to help Marylanders put healthy and nutritious food on the kitchen table in November during the Trump Administration's federal shutdown.

For more information, please see our [Q&A document](#).