



Presentation to House Committee on Early Childhood and
Human Services Senate Committee on Human Services

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

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Food access: Current context

\$342

Approx. monthly cost
of food per person
(U.S.)

\$162

Average monthly
SNAP benefit per
person

Average daily cost of
food per person (U.S.)

\$11.04

Average daily SNAP
benefit per person

\$5.32

- Costs for farmers and growers continue to rise as **climate, global events and production factors** impact the food system.
- The price of **imported goods** is increasing significantly, making **culturally appropriate foods** more expensive and difficult to acquire.
- Continued increases in **fuel, energy, medical and housing costs** contribute to fewer available food dollars for individuals and families.

Food Programs: Overview

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Double Up Food Bucks

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Disaster Food Programs

Summer EBT

“A single parent was having trouble supporting her family. We educated her on SNAP and helped her apply. By accessing our grocery program and receiving SNAP benefits, she can pay her other bills.”

– Clackamas Service Center

“A lot of the clients needing help are older adults with limited access to the internet. SSP staff still found excellent ways to support our clients through SNAP.”

– Impact NW

SNAP

- Supplements the **monthly food budget** of people who are experiencing poverty.
- Increases access to **culturally appropriate foods**.
- Improves the **health and diet of older adults** experiencing low income.
- Builds recipient **education and skills**, supporting the pursuit of work that moves them towards stability and whole well-being.
- Provides nutrition assistance during times of **disaster and emergency**.

SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) services around Oregon connect SNAP participants to life-changing training and employment services.



SNAP in Oregon

SNAP services include:

- **Food benefits.**
- **Employment and training** to help participants create a career pathway.
- **Outreach through community organizations** locally to improve participation.
- **Nutrition education** in every county through classes, demonstrations and informational materials.

Eligibility

Applicants must earn less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and meet other income and eligibility requirements.

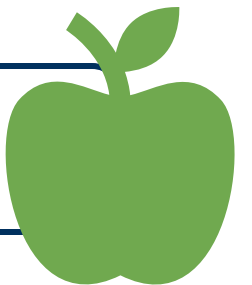
\$2,265

Income limit at 200% for an individual

\$4,625

Income limit at 200% for a family of four

1 in 6 Oregonians receive SNAP benefits



SNAP use



- Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes, or tobacco
- Vitamins, medicines and supplements
- Live animals
- Hot prepared foods
- Non-food items like pet food, cleaning supplies or hygiene items



- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, poultry, fish and shellfish
- Dairy products
- Breads and cereals
- Other foods such as snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages
- Seeds and plants that produce food



In person shopping

At most Oregon stores that sell food and farmers markets



Online ordering

Pickup from stores with an online option

Delivery through Amazon and Walmart

Double-Up Food Bucks



“I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease this year and my income was barely keeping up with the cost of my medical bills and the new diet... When my job ended, I was concerned how I was going to keep the balancing act going. I was relieved when I qualified for SNAP. I used [Double-Up Food Bucks] for the first time this week, and almost cried at the **quantity and quality of produce** I was able to purchase. **I do not need to choose** between rent, quality of food or medical care... while I find my footing again.”

– **SNAP recipient**

“Our community has a significant low-income population. Sometimes my farmers market booth **income is made up of 45-55 percent SNAP** which reassures me that I'm helping to feed my community. And it in turn helps feed my family and keep my farm running.”

– **Farmer's market vendor**

Emergency food benefits

- Since April 2020, Emergency Allotments (EA) have been distributed to SNAP households across Oregon to help with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Most SNAP households in Oregon qualified for EA, **receiving at least \$95 each month.**
 - For many households, the monthly amount was significantly higher
- The federal Consolidated Appropriations Acts of 2023 ends EA for all states.
- February is the last month Oregon can issue Emergency Allotments.

In 2022, Oregon...

Distributed **more than \$1.3 billion** in SNAP benefits to approximately 762,000 people.

Distributed **\$836 million** in emergency food benefits to approximately 723,000 people.

Totaled **\$2.2 billion** in food benefits to help people get enough food.



SNAP funding

- SNAP benefits are federally funded by Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Administrative costs are split evenly between federal funds and Oregon general funds

Benefits

100% Federal

0% State

Administrative Costs

50% Federal

50% State



The seal of the State of Oregon is a circular emblem. It features an eagle with wings spread at the top, perched on a shield. Below the eagle is a landscape with a sun rising over a body of water, a ship, and a plow. At the bottom, a banner reads "THE UNION" and the year "1859" is inscribed. The words "STATE OF OREGON" are written around the perimeter of the seal.

Thank you