

SNAP

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - (food stamps)

Email: SNAP@okdhs.org

Phone: (405) 521-3444 or Toll Free: 1-866-411-1877

What is SNAP?

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides a monthly benefit for you to buy food. Your benefit amount is based on the size of your household, your income, and your allowed expenses. DHS issues SNAP food benefits on a plastic card, called the ACCESS Oklahoma Card. You can use your ACCESS card just like a bank card at most food stores.

How do I apply for SNAP benefits?

If you previously received benefits from DHS go to the website www.okdhslive.org Reapply by clicking the link "Apply for Benefits. Enter your email address and password.

If you are a first time user, you will first need to create a user name and password. Go to the website listed above and select Apply for Benefits and then select "Create a user id and password.

You may also apply for SNAP benefits by printing and completing the Request for Benefits form. You can then mail, fax, email, or take it to your local DHS office during business hours. Click on Get Adobe Reader if you have trouble viewing the Request for Benefits form.

Interview Requirements

When you apply for food benefits, you must complete an interview with a DHS worker and answer some additional eligibility questions. Interviews are completed by telephone or in person. An interview can be scheduled for your convenience – in order to account for employment or transportation needs.

Once DHS receives the Request for Benefits form, you will be contacted regarding your interview. You will receive an interview notice in the mail and may receive a telephone call to complete an interview. It is important that your address and phone numbers are accurate so that we can best serve you.

What food benefits verification documents will I need to provide?

When you first apply for food benefits, you will need to provide a document to prove your identity. If you are eligible for expedited services, this may be all you have to provide to receive one or two months of benefits. The chart below shows the type of documents you need to provide.

Documents:

Identity of applicant - *Can use what DOC gave you called a Consolidated Record Card (CRC)*

- Birth Cert birth certificate **OR**
- Driver license **OR**
- paycheck **OR**
- Voter reg card **OR**
- school records **OR**
- US Passport **OR** (You don't need all these documents)

Immigration status

- a document that shows your lawful immigration status if you are not a U.S. citizen

Social Security numbers

- Social Security cards or numbers

How long does it take to get food benefits?

It may take up to 30 calendar days from the date you submit your application to receive benefits or a denial notice. It usually doesn't take that long to get help. You may be eligible to receive food benefits right away if you meet expedited food benefit rules.

What are expedited food benefits? Do I need to apply for this benefit separately?

Expedited food benefits mean you get your food benefits faster when you meet certain rules. When you qualify, DHS staff must process your application within seven calendar days of the date you apply. You do not have to ask for expedited food benefits or apply for expedited benefits separately. DHS staff checks every food benefit application to see if the household qualifies for expedited services.

How do I know if I am eligible for Expedited Food Stamps?

A worker will review the answers you gave on your application to see if you qualify. If it looks like you might be eligible, a worker will interview you the same day if you apply in person. If you cannot stay to be seen the same day, mail in your application, or apply online, a worker will contact you to set up a date and time for the interview.

What are the rules for expedited food benefits?

You are eligible to receive expedited food benefits if:

1. Your household has less than \$150.00 in monthly gross income and you do not have cash resources over \$100.00.
2. You are a migrant or seasonal farm worker and you do not have cash resources over \$100.00.
3. Your household's total monthly income and cash resources are less than the household's monthly rent or mortgage, and utilities.

How can I get more information about Expedited Services?

You can contact your local DHS office for more information.

Online you can find your local office at <http://www.okdhs.org/countyoffices/Pages/default.aspx>

You may also call 405-521-3444 or email snap@okdhs.org