

# NUTRITION NOTE



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**Did you know?**

SNAP is the nation's most important anti-hunger program. It helps about 40 million Americans a month put food on the table. CBPP, 2019

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# ADVOCACY UPDATES



**ALERT**

**COVID RELIEF BILL  
INCLUDES SNAP BOOST**

**Highlights:**

- **15% Increase** to benefits through June 2021
- **Excludes extra \$300 of unemployment** from being counted as income
- **Waives some requirements** for college students
- Adds **\$100 million for administrative expenses** of State Agencies operating SNAP
- Provides **\$5 million to expand the online purchasing program**, support mobile payment technologies, and improve the integrity of the EBT Transfer system

**Retweet Me!**

[Click here](#) to learn more about **SNAP expansions in the latest COVID legislation** and check out this [news story breakdown](#) of the package.

### Welcome Legislators!

The 112 General Assembly convened on January 12, 2021. We welcome the newly elected and returning lawmakers. Please read our [welcome letter here](#).

### P-EBT Advocacy Opportunity

**Tell Governor Lee to get P-EBT to qualified children now.** Families continue to wait for P-EBT benefits and have received nothing for October-present, leaving over 360,000 children without support for months. Act now: [sign our petition](#).



### SNAP Maximum Benefit

Governor Lee extended the State of Emergency which allows individuals to continue to receive the **SNAP Maximum Benefit** for the month of January.



## Families are Eligible for a 15% increase to SNAP

The **SNAP benefit will increase by 15%** from January to June. Here is a breakdown of the approximate increase to SNAP benefits:

Household Size	Max Benefit Amount	15% Increase*
1 Person	\$204	\$30
2 People	\$374	\$56
3 People	\$535	\$80
4 People	\$680	\$180

\*approximate amount

## Upcoming Trainings

**Senior SNAP Training** (February 17 at 11am CT) - Learn how hunger impacts Tennessee Seniors and how SNAP can help. [Register here.](#)

**College Hunger Call** (January 29 at 10am CT) - Discover how SNAP and WIC can alleviate college hunger on campus. [Register here.](#)

**SNAP Access Call** (February 18 at 10am CT) - Monthly call to discuss SNAP advocacy, casework best practices, and nutrition program updates. E-mail [esherwood@tnjustice.org](mailto:esherwood@tnjustice.org) for more information.



## P-EBT Continues to be Delayed for Families

Families have not received benefits -- for which they qualify -- during the darkest days of this pandemic: October, November, December, and January. Without this support, **over 360,000 Tennessee kids are going hungry**. Please reach out to Governor Lee and tell him to ensure that Tennessee children do not go hunger. [Sign our petition here.](#)

P-EBT is available to support families as long as the pandemic continues to prevent children from participating in free or reduced price school meals. [Please sign up here](#) to receive alerts about continued P-EBT distribution.

**Round 3 (October to present)** benefits will be rolled out in 2021. [Sign our petition](#) to urge Governor Lee to get P-EBT to qualified children now.

**Round 1 (March-May) and 2 (August and September): P-EBT Cards have been distributed or sent back to DHS.** If someone you know was eligible for Round 1 or 2 P-EBT and did not receive it, please contact us at [nutrition@tnjustice.org](mailto:nutrition@tnjustice.org). (Children are eligible if they were enrolled in Free/Reduced Price Lunch and learning virtually)



**Do you want to help connect eligible children to P-EBT?** Please sign up for our P-EBT Partner Calls by emailing [esherwood@tnjustice.org](mailto:esherwood@tnjustice.org).



### Improvements to WIC through COVID Stimulus Bill

- **Extends free meals reimbursement** to young adults up to age 25 living in emergency shelters.
- **Funding for school food service authorities and childcare institutions** to help cover Covid19 related emergency operational costs from March-June 2020 to make up for budget shortfalls due to low child nutrition program participation.

- **Establishes a taskforce to test new technology** to help with online purchasing, deliveries, and self-checkout.

## **WIC Waivers extended for 30 days**

[Please click here](#) for more information about WIC waivers and how they provide flexibility for participants during the pandemic.



Interested in improving and advocating for WIC? [Sign up to be a WIC Champion here.](#)

# CHILD NUTRITION

## COVID-19 Waivers

These approved waivers allow states to modify program operations to increase their capacity to feed more children. More information on the waivers is [available here.](#)



## Summer Meals Program

A reminder that [the USDA extended the Summer Meals Program](#) to operate the entire 2020-2021 school year. This program helps eligible students by providing grab-and-go meals during the COVID-19 crisis. For more information and to find a pickup site, [visit this link](#).

## Free/Reduced Price Lunch

Enroll your child in free/reduced price school meals during the pandemic. Participation in the school meal program is a requirement for receiving Pandemic EBT benefits.

Visit our website for  
more information

Click  
Here

SNAP  
APPLICATION

WIC  
APPLICATION

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