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Did you know?

For the first time in 45 years, the USDA has increased the SNAP benefit by 21% to more accurately reflect the current cost realities of purchasing healthy food.

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HUNGRY AT HOME IN TENNESSEE

Elizabeth Franklin's Story

As the primary caregiver for her four grandchildren, Mrs. Elizabeth Franklin knows the importance of nutrition programs like SNAP and Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT). Elizabeth's grandchildren range in age from 7 to 16, and all attend Metro Nashville Public Schools. A native of Middle Tennessee, Elizabeth, her husband Anthony, and their four grandchildren, have called Nashville home since before their children were born. As Elizabeth explains, "programs such as SNAP and P-EBT are essential for the health of so many families and children across the state of Tennessee." Read more about Elizabeth's story [here...](#)

September is Hunger Action Month: Help TJC Feed Tennessee

Celebrate Hunger Action Month with TJC by supporting our work! Give during our fundraising to end hunger week September 19 – 27 and help families like Elizabeth's connect to food resources during the pandemic.



P-EBT

Summer P-EBT for Children Under 6 is Here!

Almost \$52 million in Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) was added onto SNAP (Food Stamp) EBT cards for 138,000 Tennessee children last week! Eligible SNAP participants with a child under 6 will receive an additional \$375 on their EBT card for the summer months. As the pandemic continues, and the Delta variant deepens the health and economic crisis in Tennessee, this money will help families across our state support and feed our youngest and most vulnerable residents.

Parents: If you participate in SNAP and have a child under age 6 who has yet to receive their Summer P-EBT benefits, [please appeal at this link.](#)

P-EBT Extended into the 2021-2022 School Year

Many pandemic supports have started to phase out, but the health and economic conditions brought on by COVID-19 continue to deepen food insecurity in our country. P-EBT is one support that will be available for eligible families. USDA released guidance for the 2021-2022 school year to help states feed low-income children learning from home and have lost access to free and reduced-price school meals. Key highlights from the guidance include:

- The P-EBT benefit for school year 2021-2022 is \$7.10/day per eligible child.
- P-EBT is only available to students who are learning virtually due to COVID-19.
- Parents must complete a [free/reduced-price school application](#) for their child to be eligible for P-EBT.
- P-EBT will not be available the State submits a plan to the USDA and it is approved.

Round 3 P-EBT Has Ended

Round 3 P-EBT covered the 2020-2021 school year and has ended. The last upload was the Summer P-EBT benefit of \$375. Please keep your P-EBT card. For eligible children who continue to be impacted by the pandemic, during the 2021-2022 school year another round of P-EBT may be available to your child.

Missing P-EBT benefits from Round 3? Please call DHS at **833-496-0661** or visit the [DHS Parent Portal](#) to ensure that your child's information is correct. Families may also appeal within the parent portal if you believe that your child has been missed.

Need Information on P-EBT?

Visit our [P-EBT page](#)! Learn more about P-EBT, who qualifies, and who to contact if you did not receive your benefits.

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.



Pandemic Maximum Allotment Extended into September!

SNAP participants will continue to receive the full SNAP benefit for their household size during September (see chart). September is the **last month** that participants will

receive the additional **15%** added to their SNAP benefit.

Household Size	Max Benefit Amount	15% Increase*
1 Person	\$204	\$30
2 People	\$374	\$56
3 People	\$535	\$80
4 People	\$680	\$102

*approximate benefit

USDA Increases SNAP Benefit!

For the first time in almost 50 years, the USDA has increased the SNAP benefit! On average, SNAP participants will start receiving an additional \$36.24 per person, per month, or \$1.19/day starting on October 1, 2021. The minimum SNAP benefit is now set at \$20 per month; find more information about the maximum for different household sizes [here](#). This historic increase is a result of the USDA's recent reevaluation of the Thrifty Food Plan that is used to calculate monthly SNAP allotments. As the pandemic supports expire and the cost of purchasing healthy food continues to rise, an increase in SNAP dollars will help ensure that participants can access nutritious food. While this increase is an important step, the severity of the hunger crisis in our nation requires more action to end hunger.



WIC Supporting Families After Natural Disasters

After a significant weather event such as a tornado or flood, WIC agencies have flexibilities to ensure that participants can still receive critical WIC services like nutrition and breastfeeding support. If a Presidential Declaration of Disaster is declared, WIC state agencies have the option to request program flexibilities for participants who may not have access to regular services due to damage caused by the weather event. To read more about leveraging federal nutrition resources for disaster recovery, [click here](#).

Applying for WIC During COVID

WIC offices remain closed for in-person visits, and appointments are being conducted by phone. Contact your [local office](#) to schedule an appointment. Ask questions or apply at 1-800-DIAL-WIC.

Do you have or need a WIC Appointment?

Services are being done **by phone!**
Don't come in, call in!

Call your local County Health Department!

 **1-800-DIAL-WIC**
or **TN.gov/WIC**

CHILD NUTRITION

Apply for Free/Reduced Price School Meals

Round 3 P-EBT benefits have ended. However, students can still receive support buying lunch and breakfast by applying for free/reduced price meals at school. Participation in free/reduced price meals is also a requirement to receive P-EBT in the future, as it becomes available. If you work with parents of school age children, please remind them to fill out an application to participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) with their child's school as soon as possible. For more information on NSLP, [click here](#).

Schools: Apply for CEP by the End of the Month

The deadline for schools in Tennessee to file for CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) is September 30, 2021. CEP designation allows every student at a school to receive free school meals, regardless of individual income, as long as a high enough percentage of the student body would otherwise be eligible. Participating in CEP significantly reduces paperwork and administrative burdens to parents and schools and helps ensure that children have access to free/nutritious meals. For more information on CEP, [click here](#).

CEP Requirement	Annual Deadline	Waiver Deadline
Data Used to Calculate ISP	April 1	Anytime between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021
Local Education Agency Notification	April 15	June 30, 2021
State Agency Notification	April 15	June 30, 2021
State Agency Publication	May 1	June 30, 2021
Elect CEP for SY 2021–2022	June 30	September 30, 2021

ADVOCACY UPDATES

Bills to Support

Access to Healthy Foods for Young Children Act of 2021 (S.1270) – Strengthens and expands the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) by allowing for another meal or snack, expanding eligibility, and increasing reimbursement rates for sponsors and providers. Urge your members of congress to support this bill today. If you're part of an organization who would like to see this bill move forward, [sign-on here to endorse it](#).

Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2021 (S.2192 / H.R.4077)– Increases SNAP benefits, expands SNAP to include U.S. territories, and eliminates eligibility restrictions like

time-limits. Urge your members of Congress to support this bill today.

Improving Access to Nutrition Act ([H.R. 175](#)) – Eliminates 3-month time limit for SNAP and provides flexibilities for people seeking work while participating in SNAP. Urge your members of Congress to support this bill today.

Enhanced Access to SNAP Act [S. 2515](#) / [H.R. 1919](#) – Provides flexibilities for low-income college students to access SNAP. Urge your members of Congress to support this bill today. If you're part of an organization who would like to see this bill move forward, [sign-on here to endorse it by September 10](#).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

SNAP Access Call (Thursday, July 15 at 10:00 am CT) – Monthly call to discuss SNAP advocacy, casework best practices, and nutrition program updates. E-mail aluttrell@tnjustice.org for more information and for the link to register.

Food Assistance for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals (Thursday, September 23, at 11:00 am CT) – Join us for a discussion on eligibility for formerly incarcerated individuals, how they can apply, and what we can do to advocate for program expansions that support people transitioning out of the prison system. [Register today!](#)

College Hunger Call (Thursday, September 20, at 11:00 am CT) – Join us for our fourth College Hunger Call of 2021! We'll discuss how colleges and universities can connect students to food safety net programs like SNAP and WIC as they head back to campus. A new tool to help connect with partners across Tennessee doing anti-hunger work on campus will also be unveiled. [Register today!](#)

Food Assistance for Immigrants and Refugees (Thursday, October 28, at 11:00 am CT) – Join us for a discussion on how to connect immigrant and refugee communities to food safety net programs like SNAP and WIC. We'll discuss the state of immigrant and refugee hunger in Tennessee, how SNAP and WIC can help, and how partners across the state can work together to eliminate hunger in our state. [Register today!](#)

Welcoming our Fall Intern!



Logan Bulls

Logan is a recent Sewanee: The University of the South graduate who majored in international global studies and minored in politics. A Baltimore, Maryland native, Logan was an all-American member and captain of the women's lacrosse team, worked in the admissions office, participated in Greek life and was a member of multiple clubs that promoted civic and social advocacy. Before joining the TJC, Logan lived in DC for the summer and worked at an event planning firm helping plan events and logistics for fortune 500 companies and democratic political campaigns. Logan is excited to work with the child advocacy and nutrition department to gain more experience by working towards her goal of going into family law.

Visit our website for more information



SNAP APPLICATION

WIC APPLICATION

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Stay connected:



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Suite 100

Nashville, TN 37219
United States

info@tnjustice.org | 1-877-608-1009 | <https://www.tnjustice.org>

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