



Massachusetts
Councils On Aging

SNAP EA Resources

updated 1/10/23

The federal public health emergency ends Wednesday, January 11, 2023. In place since 2020, it provided SNAP households additional funds called emergency allotments (EA). The Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) will issue *the last EA payment on March 2, 2023*. After this payment, households will receive only their standard award, a decrease of at least \$95 month. This is a federal decision and cannot be appealed.

Since this significantly impacts over 240,000 older adults in Massachusetts, MCOA created this list of information and resources for councils on aging to use and share. Found on the [nutrition page](#) of our website it can be directly accessed at [SNAP EA Resources](#). If you have any questions, contact Tara Hammes at tara@mcoaonline.com or 413-923-2160.

Action Steps

1. Maximize SNAP benefits by informing [DTAconnect.com](#) if
 - [medical costs are over \\$35 a month](#) for anyone in their SNAP household who is 60 or older or has a disability,
 - housing costs have gone up (rent/mortgage), and
 - if one is working, looking for work, or in school, tell DTA about any child or disabled adult care costs. Residents can also call the DTA Assistance Line at 877-382-2363, visit a local DTA office, or work with one of the department's over 100 [SNAP outreach partners](#).
2. Create a tailored food resource guide using MCOA's [Nutrition Community Checklist](#)
3. Visit [average SNAP and hunger cliff data](#) to learn how many older adults will be affected in your community. These will be updated with December 2022 data soon.
4. Learn about [reclaiming skimmed SNAP benefits](#) and share this experience with/receive updates from Massachusetts Law Reform Institute by [completing this form](#) or emailing vnegus@mlri.com.
5. Attend an information session on how become a [SNAP outreach partner](#).

Additional Resources

- Community Food Resources: call or text Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline, 1-800-645-8333
- If you have children under age five, you may be eligible for WIC: [Mass.gov/WIC](#) or call 800-942-1007
- All K-12 students can get free school meals this school year
- Rent or mortgage help: Call 2-1-1 or go to [Mass.gov/covidhousinghelp](#)
- Fuel Assistance help paying for heat: go to [Toapply.org/MassLIHEAP](#) or call 800-632-8175
- Money to help pay for the internet or a computer: [GetInternet.gov](#), [AccedeAInternet.gov](#)

- Get help with 2022 taxes and any COVID stimulus or Child Tax Credit money you are owed: [FindYourFunds.org](https://www.findyourfunds.org)
- If you have children/are pregnant and have no income or low income, you may be able to get TAFDC cash benefits. If you are 65 or older or disabled with no or very low income you may be able to get EAEDC cash benefits. Learn more/apply: [DTAConnect.com](https://www.dtacconnect.com)

More Information

Review the new website [Mass.gov/ExtraCOVIDSNAP](https://www.mass.gov/ExtraCOVIDSNAP) for more details on planning for the end of these temporary federal benefits.