



CALFRESH PROGRAM FACT SHEET

WHAT IS CALFRESH PROGRAM?

The new name for California’s Food Stamp Program is “CalFresh.” This name change is a result of a recent State law. The CalFresh Program is the cornerstone of the federal food assistance program. The purpose of this program is to promote and safeguard the health and well-being of low-income households by raising their levels of nutrition and increasing their food purchasing power.

In California, the monthly CalFresh benefit is transferred to the household’s Golden State Advantage Card, known as Electronic Benefit Transfer card, and is issued when the household’s CalFresh case is approved.

WHO CAN GET CALFRESH?

Individuals or households whose income is low enough and meet other eligibility factors, can get CalFresh benefits. Qualified immigrants may get CalFresh benefits. In California, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program recipients are not eligible for CalFresh.

HOW MUCH CALFRESH BENEFITS CAN A HOUSEHOLD RECEIVE?

The amount of CalFresh benefits depends on the household size and income. The less income a household receives, the more CalFresh benefits a household can get.

If a household has this many members	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
And makes less than this each month	\$1,174	\$1,579	\$1,984	\$2,389	\$2,794	\$3,200	\$3,605	\$4,010
The household could get up to this much in benefits: *	\$200	\$367	\$526	\$668	\$793	\$952	\$1,052	\$1,202

* Actual amount depends on your case situation

ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOUSEHOLDS

The 130% gross income limit is not used to determine eligibility for households that contain an elderly and/or disabled member. Instead, the net monthly income limit (gross income minus applicable deductions) is used to determine eligibility.

RESOURCES

Effective February 1, 2011, resources such as money and property are no longer counted when determining CalFresh eligibility. If a household is applying for cash aid (CalWORKs, General Relief and CAPI) or Medi-Cal, resources will be counted for those programs.

APPLICATION PROCESSING AND EXPEDITED SERVICE

CalFresh applications are processed within 30 days. In emergency situations, a household may receive CalFresh benefits within three days of the date of their CalFresh applications. It is the Department of Public Social Services’ (DPSS) policy to issue expedited CalFresh benefits on the day of application, whenever possible. The household must meet specified conditions which would render the household’s situation emergent (e.g., monthly gross income is less than \$150).

HOW MANY PERSONS ARE RECEIVING CALFRESH IN LOS ANGELES?

Currently, DPSS provides CalFresh benefits to nearly one million individuals in Los Angeles County.

HOW TO APPLY

Online at www.dpssbenefits.lacounty.gov, or in person at any Department of Public Social Services Office or contracted partner sites, in person at some schools, community events, and WIC offices, or by mail or fax.

For more information on CalFresh, visit us online at <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/calfresh> or call 1(877) 597-4777.