HELP FROM THE SNAP PROGRAM DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS
Benefits Data Trust (BDT) is helping people with applications statewide
(833) 373-5869

If you are not getting SNAP
• Almost all low-income people are eligible
• The SNAP income limit is 160% of the poverty line (200% if someone in elderly or disabled)
  o $1,666 (or $2082) for a single person
  o $3434 for a family of four
• There is no resource limit – savings are irrelevant. (Application will ask, but only to screen for “expedited”
  (emergency) service
• How much will I get? Maximum monthly grants:
  1 person $194  4 persons $646
  2 persons $355  5 persons $768
  3 persons $509  6 persons $921
• Expedited (emergency) SNAP
  o Can get expedited SNAP within 5 days of application if housing costs (plus utilities) are more than monthly
    income plus savings
  o No verification (documents) are needed, except I.D. (which can be checked electronically)
  o Need to complete application for on-going SNAP

How do I apply for SNAP?
• Online at compass.state.pa.us
• Download and mail a paper application (these are available in several different languages)
  https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/Apply-for-Benefits.aspx

If you are getting SNAP
• SNAP and TANF renewals and semi-annual reports are delayed 6 months, with no cutoffs for failure to submit
  paperwork.
• Report loss if income (and other changes) via COMPASS, the mobile app MyCompassPA, or by calling the
  Customer Service Center 877 395-8930
• Self-attestation (your statement) will be accepted for loss of income. No proof is needed, but tell the truth

Emergency SNAP Allotments
• In April, the PA Department of Human Services (DHS) began issuing Emergency SNAP Allotments to bring the
  SNAP household’s benefit up to the maximum SNAP allotment for their household size.
• The initial emergency issuances (for March and April) were made on a staggered basis between April 16-29.
• DHS announced that it will continue to issue Emergency SNAP Allotments in May and each month thereafter for
  the duration of the Coronavirus crisis.
• These issuances are in addition to the regular SNAP benefit payments made at the beginning of the month.
• Emergency SNAP Allotments are issued in the second half of the month on a staggered basis, separate from the
  regular SNAP benefit payments.
• Note that households who are already receiving the maximum SNAP allotment will not receive an Emergency
  SNAP Allotment

Community Justice Project is a nonprofit legal aid program that provides legal assistance at no cost to income-eligible clients
SCRANTON 570-604-5195 • HAZLETON 570-582-5816 • READING 610-370-7459
PITTSBURGH 412-434-6002 • HARRISBURG 717-236-9486
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