



# COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROJECT

## 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 is elderly or disabled)
  - \$1,666 (or \$2082) for a single person
  - \$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
  - Can get expedited SNAP within 5 days of application if housing costs (plus utilities) are more than monthly income plus savings
  - No verification (documents) are needed, except I.D. (which can be checked electronically)
  - Need to complete application for on-going SNAP

### *How do I apply for SNAP?*

- Online at [compass.state.pa.us](https://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 of 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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