

## YOU MAY QUALIFY

### FLEXIBILITY TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

### Work-related time limits

The Department for Children and Families (DCF) is temporarily waiving work requirements and work training to receive food assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Adjustments to Interview Requirements

Temporarily, households are not required to do initial in-person interviews prior to receiving SNAP. This requirement has been waived until May 2020.

## **Emergency Allotments** to Current SNAP

- Due to the pandemic, households currently receiving SNAP benefits will have their benefit increased to the maximum monthly allotment for a household of their size for the months of April and May 2020.
- All emergency allotments will be delivered on the household's EBT card.
- If your monthly SNAP benefit is **less than** the maximum SNAP for your household, you will get a supplemental benefit up to the maximum SNAP benefit. If you get the maximum SNAP benefit, you will **not** get extra SNAP. This is because of a decision made by USDA.

#### **Extended Certification Periods**

- SNAP participants normally require a minimum certification period of 6 months for most households. Due to the pandemic, this has been waived to 12 months.
- For seniors and people with disabilities the Certification Period has been extended to 24 months.

### **ABOUT THIS ACT**

On Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed into law by the President after passage by the US Congress. In addition to other sweeping changes, this law allows the USDA and states the necessary flexibility to address food insecurity by making SNAP work best in the new reality of the pandemic.

#### **HOW TO APPLY FOR SNAP:**

- You can create an online account and apply for food assistance and other DCF programs <u>here</u>.
- Paper applications are now available outside each DCF service center across the state. Your completed application(s) may be left in drop boxes outside each service center.
- Harvesters Community Food Network has an Outreach Team that can help you determine if you are eligible for SNAP and navigate the SNAP application process. Call (877) 653-9522.

**NOTE:** As long as DCF offices remain closed due to the pandemic, there will be no in-person interviews for applications and recertifications. A DCF staff person will call you to schedule a phone interview.





This institution is an equal opportunity provider.