



In September, Your SNAP Benefits Will Decrease

This letter is to tell you that the total amount of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that you receive will **decrease effective September 2022 due to the end of temporary supplemental Emergency Allotment benefits.**

Why are your benefits decreasing?

Congress temporarily increased SNAP benefits because of the COVID-19 public health emergency. This means you have been getting more benefits on your EBT card each month than you normally would. Because the COVID-19 situation has improved, the Alaska Public Health emergency is ending effective July 1 and your benefits will be reduced to the normal amount. In September, you will no longer receive an Emergency Allotment benefit and your monthly SNAP benefit amount will decrease. The Division of Public Assistance does not have control over this change.

Due to the substantial number of households eligible to receive Emergency Allotment benefits, the Division of Public Assistance (DPA) is continuing to issue Emergency Allotment benefits for months prior to September 2022. We will continue issuing these older Emergency Allotment benefits until all households have received the benefits they are entitled to.

For more information on SNAP eligibility and benefits, please visit our website (<https://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa>).

What do you need to do?

This letter does not require you to do anything. We are just letting you know that your total benefits will decrease in September because you will no longer receive the Emergency Allotment. You will continue to receive your authorized SNAP benefit until the end of your approval period as long as you are eligible. When you need to report or reapply for a new approval period, we will give you another notice with instructions on how to do so.

How to check how much benefits are on your EBT card

To check the balance on your EBT card, you can call the phone number listed on the back of your EBT card. Remember that the decrease in your monthly benefit amount will not happen until September 2022.

If you have other questions

If you have questions or need more information, please call us at 1-800-478-7778, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. You may also visit our website (<https://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa>) for more information.

If you need a language interpreter, call 1-800-478-7778 and we will provide one at no cost to you. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, dial 711 to reach an Alaska Relay Communications Assistant.

If you need more help with food

If you need more help with food, please contact the Food Bank of Alaska at 907-272-3663 or visit their website at <https://foodbankofalaska.org/>.

Sincerely,



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<https://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa>

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Complain_combined_6_8_12_508.pdf, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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Note: Please do not send any application materials to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The address above is for civil rights complaints only.