



Welcome to



Presentation For HUSD
By: Stefanie Toro



CalFresh Purpose

What is CalFresh?

- CalFresh is a federal nutrition program.
- Known nationwide as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- Formerly known as Food Stamps
- CalFresh is the program name in California



The Program's Purpose

- To provide low-income individuals and families with access to healthy and nutritious food.
- To improve the health and well-being of qualified households and individuals by providing them a means to meet their nutritional needs.

CalFresh Benefits

- The amount of benefits a household is eligible to receive depends on income, expenses, and household size. The current maximum for a household of 1 is \$291 per month.
- Benefits are deposited electronically on an electronic benefits transfer card (EBT) that works just like an ATM card.
- The EBT card is accepted at most grocery stores and farmers markets. People who are homeless, disabled, or a senior, can also use it at some restaurants. May also be used for online purchases for groceries at Walmart, Amazon and Safeway.



Application Process

How to complete and submit the application:

- In-person at any county office or,
- Online: www.mybenefitsCal.com
- Call: 1-877-847-FOOD



What comes next?

Complete an in-person face to face interview or phone interview; whichever is most convenient for the client and submit verifications.

Clients can reschedule their intake appointments at:

www.mybenefitsCal.com

Who processes CalFresh applications?

Applications are assigned to county eligibility workers who will determine eligibility

Mandatory Verifications

- **Identification for applicant**
(ex. driver's license, birth certificate, or health card)
- **Social Security Number/Proof of SSN Application**
(for everyone in your household who has one)
- **Legal Permanent Resident Card** (copy both sides) **or**
documentation of Qualified Noncitizen Status
(for everyone in your household who has one)
- **Proof of all income received during the previous 30 days of application or anticipated to be received** (ex. check stubs, a letter from your employer or you, stating how much you get paid and how often).

Processing Time



- **Regular Processing**
 - 30 days
 - 60 days for household caused delays
- **Beginning date of aid is the date the application is received by the county**
 - or date verification is provided for delays caused by the household during the 60-day period
- **Emergency/Expedited Services**
 - Must be processed within 3 days after the date of application.

Expedited Services

To be eligible for expedited services, the household must meet at least one of these requirements:

- Gross monthly income is less than \$150.00 and liquid resources do not exceed \$100.00.
- Household combined gross income and liquid resources are less than the combined rent and utility.
- A migrant or seasonal farm worker who is destitute

Household Composition

A CalFresh household can be:

- An individual living alone
- A group of persons living together who purchase and prepare together
- An individual living with others, but customarily purchases and prepares meals for home consumption separate and apart from the others

Household Composition Cont'd

Household status for the following are not eligible:

- Unborn child is not a household member until birth
- Intent to purchase or prepare separately is not a factor in establishing a separate household

Residency

- A household member must be living in the county in which they apply for benefits
- Applicant or their household members can not be active in another county
- There is no durational requirement
- There is no requirement for permanent dwelling or fixed mailing address

* An Alameda County Social Services Agency office address may be used for all homeless individuals that do not have a home or mailing address.

Citizenship & Non-Citizen Households

- **All U.S. Citizens may be eligible**
 - Verification of citizenship is not required unless questionable.
- **Most non-citizens admitted for lawful residence may be eligible**
 - Verification of status is required
- **Excluded:**
 - Visitors, tourists, diplomats, and foreign Students, ITIN cardholders
- **Most eligible non-citizens must have a valid social security number.**

*ITIN (Individual tax identification number)

Elderly/Disabled Households

Definition:

- **Elderly** households are determined if one individual in the home is age 60 years of age or older.
- **Disabled** households are individuals that are determined permanently disabled based on Social Security Administration rules (i.e. receives SSA disability benefits, Medi-Cal Disability benefits, pending SSI benefits, etc.) or receive Veterans Assistance (VA) benefits.

Types of Income

- **Earned Income**
 - Wages and salaries
 - Training allowances
 - Self-employment
- **Unearned Income**
 - Including assistance grants (GA, CalWORKs, etc.)
 - Unemployment Insurance Benefits (UIB)
 - Child support received
 - Retirement or disability income

Allowable Deductions

- **Housing costs**
 - Rent / mortgage
 - Homeowners insurance
 - Property taxes
- **Utility Expenses**
 - Gas
 - Electric
 - Water
 - Garbage/ sewer
 - Phone
- **Child Care 100%**
- **Court ordered child support**
- **Out of Pocket Medical expenses (elderly/disabled)**
 - Over-the-counter medicine
 - Transportation costs to and from doctor
 - Medical supplies/equipment
 - Service animals, food and care



Maximum CalFresh Allotments

Effective October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Each Additional Person
Maximum Allotment	\$291	\$535	\$766	\$973	\$1,155	\$1,386	\$1,532	\$1,751	+ \$219



Resources

- Resources are waived for most households if their gross monthly income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- Resources are counted for purposes of determining expedited services.
- Although there is no gross income test for seniors, in order to waive resources their income must also be at or below 200% of the FPL.
- If a senior's income is above 200% of the FPL, their resources are counted.
 - Resource limit for seniors is \$4,250.



Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standard

Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards for Modified Categorical Eligibility (MCE) / Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) (200% of Poverty Level)

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Each Additional Person
200% FPL Gross Income	\$2,430	\$3,288	\$4,144	\$5,000	\$5,858	\$6,714	\$7,570	\$8,428	+\$858



Semi-Annual Reporting

- The submission of a SAR 7 (Semi-Annual Report) is the client's responsibility.
- CalFresh households are SAR 7 households. The SAR 7 form is mailed to them 6 months after certification.
- The IRT (Income Reporting Threshold) for CalFresh is 130% of the FPL. When a household's income goes above their IRT in between the SAR 7 report due dates, the household is required to report the mid-period change.
- County initiated changes may decrease benefit amounts.
- Alameda County residents now have the option to complete, sign, upload verifications, and submit the Semi-Annual Report (SAR 7) online.



Recertification

- CalFresh households must recertify their eligibility in order to keep continuously receiving CalFresh benefits.
- The HH must submit a recertification form (CF 37 for Non-Assistance or SAWS 2 Plus for Public Assistance) before the end of the certification period, complete an interview, and submit any mandatory verifications on changes reported
- A recertification form is considered timely when submitted by the 15th day of the last month of the certification period.
- Alameda County residents now have the option to complete, sign, upload verifications, and submit the CalFresh recertification (CF37) online.



How to Apply

Eastmont Self-Sufficiency Center
6955 Foothill Blvd, **Oakland**

Enterprise Self-Sufficiency Center
8477 Enterprise Way, **Oakland**

Livermore Self-Sufficiency Center
2499 Constitution Dr., **Livermore**

Gail Steele Multi-Service Center
24100 Amador St., **Hayward**

Fremont Office
39155 Liberty St., **Fremont**

Thomas L. Berkeley Self-Sufficiency Center
2000 San Pablo Ave., **Oakland**

Apply Online:	www.mybenefitsCal.com
Apply By Phone:	(510) 272-3663
Apply By Mail or Fax:	P.O. Box 12941, Oakland, CA 94604 or (510) 670-5095
For Application Assistance:	(877) 847-3663 or (510) 635-3663





Thank You for attending!

