



Food and Nutrition Service

Facts about SNAP After the Shutdown

For Clients:

- 1. Most of you have your monthly February benefit available on your card now.** If you are a current SNAP client who did not receive your February benefit yet, you will receive it soon.
- 2. There is no deadline to spend your February benefits.**
- 3. You will not receive another benefit for February, even though the government has reopened.** The February benefit was issued early to make sure you would receive your February benefits, even if the federal government was still shutdown in February. Issuing benefits early was the only way to make sure everyone received benefits for February.
- 4. Carefully budget your SNAP benefits to extend through February.**
- 5. If you are scheduled for renewal in February, submit your recertification paperwork as required.** If eligible, you will receive February benefits.
- 6. If you apply for SNAP, states will process your application.** If eligible, you will receive February benefits.

If you have any questions about your SNAP benefits, please contact [your state or local office](#).

For Retailers:

- 1. February benefits are fully funded.**
- 2. If the SNAP purchase is approved, your business will be paid as usual.**
- 3. There is no deadline by which February benefits must be spent.**
- 4. Do not set a dollar value limit on SNAP purchases.**

When Can I Expect to Receive My March FoodShare Benefits?

The 2019 government shutdown resulted in February SNAP (FoodShare) benefits being issued early for most Wisconsin families. Ordinarily, there are 28 days between the time FoodShare benefits are placed on the QUEST/EBT card each month. However, because February FoodShare benefits were issued early, **the lag time for the majority of Wisconsin FoodShare recipients will be between 41 and 54 days.**

In Wisconsin, SNAP issuance is based upon the 8th digit of a participant's Social Security number. Benefits are released over the first 15 days based on the schedule below.

8th Digit of SSN	Benefit Release Date	Amount of Time Elapsed Between Feb. Benefits Receipt
0	2-March	41 days
1	3-March	42 days
2	5-March	44 days
3	6-March	45 days
4	8-March	47 days
5	9-March	48 days
6	10-March	49 days
7	11-March	50 days
8	14-March	53days
9	15-March	54 days

Questions about your QUEST card or FoodShare benefits? The following resources can help FoodShare recipients track their remaining benefits:

- www.ACCESS.wi.gov (Visit online and login to your account)
- **MYACCESS Mobile App** (Check balance and case details without visiting a welfare office)
- **877-415-5164** (Call QUEST/EBT card question hotline)

