When Can I Expect to Receive My March FoodShare Benefits?

In March, all Wisconsin SNAP benefits will be issued on Friday, March 1, 2019.

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 40 days.**

It does not matter the number of the participant's Social Security number like the typical schedule. March benefits are valid for the entire month of March, so FoodShare recipients should budget their benefits accordingly.

8th Digit of SSN	Benefit Release Date	Amount of Time Elapsed Between Feb. Benefits Receipt
0	1-March	40 days
1	1-March	40 days
2	1-March	40 days
3	1-March	40 days
4	1-March	40 days
5	1-March	40 days
6	1-March	40 days
7	1-March	40 days
8	1-March	40 days
9	1-March	40 days

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

- <u>www.ACCESS.wi.gov</u> (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)





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 <u>your</u> <u>state or local office</u>.

For Retailers:

- **1.** February benefits are <u>fully</u> 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.