

Extra FoodShare Benefits are Ending

What you need to know

What is changing?

The extra FoodShare payment, officially called **Emergency Allotments**, will end in **February 2023** due to Federal action.

Starting in March, you will only get your regular FoodShare payment loaded to your QUEST (EBT) card in the first half of the month. There will be no second payment in the month.

What should I do?

Update your information:

- Address, phone number, email
- Change of income or expenses

Check your regular FoodShare benefit amount by:

- Going online to www.access.wi.gov
- Using your smartphone MyACCESS app
- Calling your local Income Maintenance Agency at

dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02342.pdf

You May Be Able to Increase your Regular Benefits

Make sure your information is up-to-date and you can report important changes, such as:

- 1) Your address, email, and phone number to ensure you don't miss important updates.
- 2) Your income and the income of others in your FoodShare household.
 - Did you lose work hours or have your pay cut? If you are earning less, you may qualify for more FoodShare benefits. You may have to provide proof of these changes.
- 3) Your expenses and other allowable deductions.
 - Are you paying more for rent/mortgage, property tax, child or adult care, or child support? In some cases, reporting this may help you qualify for more FoodShare benefits. You may have to provide proof of these changes.
 - If someone in your household is 60 or older, are blind, or have a disability AND pays more than \$35 in medical expenses, providing proof of these expenses may help you qualify for more FoodShare benefits. Learn more at dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03315.pdf.

If you have questions feel free to reach out to the FoodShare Helpline at 1-877-366-3635

You do not need to spend all of your current FoodShare benefits

You can keep FoodShare benefits on your QUEST (EBT) card up to 12 months. If you find that the extra FoodShare is giving you a little more money for food than you need to spend, you can save them to spend in a later month.

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You can report a change in one of the following ways:

- Using the MyACCESS mobile app (free on the Apple App or Google Play Store).
- Using your ACCESS account at www.access.wi.gov.
- Visit your local county agency to report changes in person. Look up your local agency at dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02342.pdf.
- Call your regional Income Maintenance Consortium Call Center by phone. Look up your regional Consortium at dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02342.pdf.

Note: Outside of the application, renewal and six-month report form, FoodShare members are only required to report when household income exceeds 130% of the FPL or when members aged 18-49 without dependents work hours drop below 80 per month. However, when your household has changes, you can report them sooner and they might increase your regular FoodShare benefits.

Additional Resources

- Find local resources including food pantries, meal sites, and other local food distribution programs by connecting with 211: call 211 or 1-877-947-2211 or visit 211wisconsin.communityos.org/
- Pregnant or have kids under the age of 5? If you receive FoodShare, you qualify for WIC. Learn more and start the application process: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/local-projects.htm
- Covering Wisconsin for healthcare questions, resources, application assistance: coveringwi.org/enroll or call (608) 261-1455.
- If you have children/are pregnant and have no income or low income, you may be able to get W2. dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/parents/w2
- Emergency Cash Assistance dcf.wisconsin.gov/ea
- Rent or mortgage help: call 211 or www.wiscap.org/housing
- Energy Assistance energybenefit.wi.gov/

These institutions are equal opportunity providers.

The FoodShare Helpline is a service of Feeding Wisconsin and its member food banks. This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

