

Impact of the Federal Government Shutdown on SNAP Benefits: What You Need to Know

⇒ **Instead of getting SNAP in February, most SNAP clients got it early – on or before January 17th.**

In Louisiana, households get SNAP (food stamps) between the 1st and 14th of each month. If you got SNAP on your EBT card early, you do NOT need to call the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) unless you have a question or need to tell them something about your case. These benefits are EARLY, not EXTRA.

⇒ **If you got February SNAP on your EBT card in January, DCFS will NOT be issuing SNAP again in February.**

If you got SNAP on your EBT card early, you will not get SNAP again in February. Keep this in mind when you are making decisions about buying food. SNAP will stay on your card until you decide to use it!

⇒ **If DCFS needs paperwork to approve your SNAP or keep your SNAP case open, get it to DCFS as quickly as possible.**

If your SNAP case is up for approval or renewal, it is important that you keep your case on track. **Keep your interview, and submit any paperwork to DCFS as quickly as possible.** The fastest ways to get paperwork to DCFS are:

- Upload documents on CAFE (<https://cafe-cp.dcf.la.gov/selfservice/>)
- Go to a local DCFS partner office. You can find offices that serve your parish at dcfs.louisiana.gov/partners

⇒ **For more information and updates, check <http://dcfs.louisiana.gov/snap2019faqs>**

More Information

- The shutdown has NO impact on SNAP eligibility rules.
- Retailers will continue to accept SNAP during the shutdown.
- If the shutdown continues through February, we do not yet know what will happen to SNAP in March.

For help with food resources in your community, call Second Harvest's Public Assistance Helpline: 1-855-392-9338, or visit www.feedinglouisiana.org/get-help