



Federal Nutrition Programs and Emergency Food Referral Chart for Older Adults
USDA National Hunger Hot Line 1-866-3-HUNGER/866-348-6479 or 1-877-8-HAMBRE/877-842-6273
Eldercare Locator, 1-800-677-1116

U.S. Department of Agriculture - Food and Nutrition Service

Age of Patient	Name of Program	How It Works	Who Can Apply	Learn More
All ages, but special rules for adults age 60 and older & individuals with disabilities	<p>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps)</p> <p>States may use a different name than SNAP</p>	<p>Monthly benefits to purchase food at SNAP-authorized grocery stores, farmers' markets, and food retail outlets</p> <p>Benefits loaded on an electronic benefit transfer card (similar to a debit card)</p> <p>The average benefit for an older adult living alone is about \$108 per month. The minimum benefit is \$16 per month.</p>	<p>Low-income individuals – typically 130–200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) – who meet income and asset tests (which can vary by state)</p> <p>Available to anyone who meets the eligibility criteria (even if they are employed)</p> <p>Special program rules for older adults (age 60 and older) and individuals with disabilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No gross income test and higher asset test (\$3,500); ○ Deduction of out-of-pocket medical expenses in excess of \$35 per month; ○ No cap on housing expenses; ○ States can adopt policies, such as a standard medical deduction, longer certification periods, or elderly simplified applications 	<p>Reaches about 4.3 million older adults each month, but could reach millions more</p> <p>Call the SNAP information line at 1-800-221-5689 for how to apply</p> <p>Online application for SNAP available in 42 states at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/apply</p> <p>Local resources:</p>
Age 60 and older	<p>Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)</p> <p>States may use a different name</p>	<p>Pick-up of a monthly food box with items, such as canned fruit and vegetables, cheese, shelf stable milk, cereals, potatoes, grains, peanut butter, and dried beans</p> <p>Receive nutrition information</p>	<p>Low-income (at or below 130 percent of the FPL)</p> <p>Participation is capped based on annual appropriations</p> <p>Limited to designated service areas in states that participate</p> <p>Administered by a state agency in conjunction with local food banks, or community action organizations</p>	<p>Reaches about 700,000 older adults each month</p> <p>State information: http://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp/csfp-contacts</p> <p>Local resources:</p>
Age 60 and older	<p>Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)</p>	<p>Annual vouchers (worth a total of \$20–\$50) to use for eligible foods (fruits, vegetables, honey, and fresh-cut herbs) at participating farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community-supported agriculture programs</p>	<p>Low-income (at or below 185 percent of the FPL) older adults, but states have option to tie eligibility to seniors participating in other means-tested programs, such as SNAP or CSFP</p> <p>Participation is capped based on annual appropriations, but not all states participate</p> <p>Vouchers distributed by a state agency or in conjunction with an entity contracted out to administer a means-tested program, such as CSFP</p>	<p>Reaches about 825,000 older adults each year</p> <p>For participating states, visit: https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/sfmnp-contacts</p> <p>Local resources:</p>

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All ages	The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	<p>Food distributed (e.g., grocery bags or boxes) typically once per month via food bank partners, including pantries, senior centers, and faith-based groups</p> <p>Types of foods offered varies</p> <p>Programs may be available for home-bound seniors</p>	<p>Targeted to low-income individuals, including older adults, but requirements vary depending on the state.</p> <p>States receive food allotments based on the number of people unemployed and number of people living below the Federal Poverty Line in the state. State agencies typically distribute the food to local food banks.</p> <p>Note: In addition to TEFAP, food banks have other food programs that can help seniors.</p>	<p>For more information on TEFAP, visit: https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program-tefap</p> <p>For more information on food banks, visit: http://www.feedingamerica.org</p>
All ages	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)	<p>A monthly package of USDA-purchased foods</p> <p>Households can select from more than 100 products, including frozen meats, canned fruits, vegetables, beans, soups, pastas, cereals, cheese, and egg mix</p> <p>Participants also receive nutrition education</p> <p>Households cannot participate in FDPIR and SNAP</p>	<p>Participation is capped based on annual appropriations and program is limited to certain areas in the country</p> <p>Limited to low-income households, including older adults living on Indian reservations and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations or in Oklahoma</p> <p>Indian Tribal Organizations or an agency of a state government are responsible for administering the program including storing and distributing the foods, determining applicant eligibility, and providing nutrition education to recipients</p>	<p>For more information, visit: https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/food-distribution-program-indian-reservations-fdpir</p> <p>Local resources:</p>
Age 60 and older (but also includes children in child care centers, homes, and in emergency shelters)	Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	<p>Two meals (breakfast, lunch, or supper) and one snack, or two snacks and one meal, to each eligible participant each day</p> <p>Meals are free, at a reduced-price, or paid depending on participant's income</p> <p>New and improved nutrition standards</p>	<p>Non-residential adult day care centers that serve adults age 60 and older and/or individuals who are functionally impaired</p> <p>Funding available to serve all eligible centers approved by the state</p> <p>Program also serves children in eligible settings</p>	<p>Contact your state CACFP agency for information: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-contacts</p> <p>Local resources:</p>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration on Aging (AOA)

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Age 60 and older	<p>Congregate Meal Program</p> <p>Program may be called something else in your state</p>	<p>Provides group meals at participating sites throughout the country (e.g., recreation centers, churches, senior housing, and other community spaces)</p> <p>Meals (typically lunch) served Mondays thru Fridays. Meals are free but voluntary contributions are accepted</p> <p>Meals allow for opportunities for social engagement</p> <p>Meals must provide at least one-third of the recommended dietary allowances</p>	<p>Funding is capped and not intended to reach every eligible individual</p> <p>Available to adults age 60 and older (plus spouse, household member with a disability, or caregiver accompanying senior to site as well as site volunteers)</p> <p>While there is no income test to participate, preference is given to those with the greatest economic and social needs, with particular attention to low-income older individuals, including those that are low-income minorities, have limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas</p>	<p>Reaches about 1.57 million seniors a year with about 80 million congregate meals</p> <p>Check out the Eldercare Locator to locate a participating site: http://www.eldercare.gov/eldercare.NET/Public/index.aspx</p> <p>Meals on Wheels provides a listing of sites at: http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/signup/aboutmealsonwheels</p> <p><u>Local resources:</u></p>
Age 60 and older	<p>Home-Delivered Meals</p> <p>Program may be called something else in your state</p>	<p>Meals delivered to place of residence (number of meals per week vary)</p> <p>Meals must provide at least one-third of the recommended dietary allowances</p> <p>Meals are free but voluntary contributions are accepted</p>	<p>Funding is capped and not intended to reach every eligible individual</p> <p>To be eligible, a person must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 60 years of age; and ○ Frail, homebound or isolated; or ○ A spouse of a person with disabilities who lives with a participating senior <p>While there is no means test for participation, preference is given to those with the greatest economic and social needs, with particular attention to low-income older individuals, including those that are low-income minorities, have limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas</p> <p>Note: Meals on Wheels programs throughout the country offer home-delivered meals and MAY have different criteria for participation; some are funded with Title III, OAA funding while others rely in whole or in part on non-governmental funding</p>	<p>Reaches about 836,000 individuals a year with 137 million home-delivered meals</p> <p>Check out the Eldercare Locator for information on home delivered meals: http://www.eldercare.gov/eldercare.NET/Public/index.aspx</p> <p>Meals on Wheels provides a listing of AOA-funded sites as well as other home delivered meal services: http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/signup/aboutmealsonwheels</p> <p><u>Local resources:</u></p>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

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Adults of all ages living with HIV	Ryan White Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Category	Provides medically tailored food and nutrition services (FNS) (e.g., home-delivered meals, congregate meals, grocery bags, food pantries, and vouchers) that complement and are necessary to the fulfillment of medical nutritional therapy (MNT)	<p>Health Resources and Services Administration funding for the program is capped</p> <p>People living with HIV can apply for services by contacting agencies that provide FNS and MNT through the Ryan White Treatment and Modernization Act</p>	Contact: The Food is Medicine Coalition at fimc@glwd.org for information on participating organizations
Adults with Severe and/or Chronic Illness	Medicaid, Medicare, PACE and other Affordable Care Act (ACA) Innovations	In most cases, these benefits cover home-delivered meals for adults meeting a certain illness criteria, often through the intermediary of a managed care plan	<p>Health providers may be able to seek reimbursement for eligible patients.</p> <p>In certain instances, medically tailored food and nutrition services may be an insurance benefit or a reimbursable service for people with severe and/or chronic illness</p> <p><i>Examples include, but are not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid 1115 Waiver Demonstration Projects Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Waivers Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans) PACE Programs Dual Eligible Demonstration Projects (Medicaid/Medicare) Bundled Payment Models Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Models (DSRIP) <p>Note: Additional nutrition services may be available for these populations through private and state funding sources.</p>	Contact: The Food is Medicine Coalition at fimc@glwd.org for information on participating organizations