



Federal Government Shutdown 2025

Questions and Answers

Updated: 10/31/2025

For the most current information, go to jfs.ohio.gov

If the federal shutdown continues, will SNAP benefits be issued for November?

- No. As of November 1, 2025, all November SNAP benefit allotments are **suspended** until sufficient federal funding is provided or until the federal government issues further direction. This includes fair hearing benefits for November.

Will OWF benefits be issued for November?

- Yes. OWF benefits will be issued for November 2025.

Should county agencies process applications received on or after November 1, 2025?

- Yes. County agencies should still process applications, recertifications, and changes as normal. If a household is eligible, they will receive an approval notice, but November SNAP benefit allotments are **suspended** until sufficient federal funding is provided or until the federal government issues further direction.

What should county agencies do with applications received before November but are still pending on or after November 1, 2025?

- County agencies should still process applications as normal. If a household is eligible, they will receive an approval notice, but SNAP benefit allotments are **suspended** until sufficient federal funding is provided or until the federal government issues further direction. We are still waiting for the federal government to provide an answer on whether benefits can be issued in November for prior months, or if we must wait until the federal shutdown has ended.

What should county agencies tell recipients who call regarding the availability of benefits?

- County agencies may utilize the message available on the ODJFS [website](#). This website will be updated with the most recent information available.

How is ODJFS notifying clients about the suspension of benefits?

- ODJFS has updated its website, posted messages on social media, has a banner on the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal (SSP), and sent messages to clients' SSP accounts. ODJFS will also do robocall/text campaign to all SNAP households. As this is a quickly evolving situation, no paper notice will be sent.

Do SNAP recipients have fair hearing rights on the suspension of benefits due to the federal government shutdown?

- No. Per FNS, there are no fair hearing rights on the suspension of benefits.

Can SNAP recipients still redeem SNAP benefits received prior to November 1, 2025?

- Yes. SNAP households may continue to redeem benefits issued to their EBT card prior to November 1, 2025, at any SNAP-authorized retailer. The suspension applies only to November 2025 benefit issuance to households and does not impact any prior benefits. As such, the authorization or redemption of benefits at eligible retailers is not impacted.

Do individuals have to continue to meet their work requirement if their benefits are suspended?

- FNS has not issued guidance directing any changes to work requirements during the federal shutdown. Individuals should continue to meet their work and reporting requirements during this time to remain eligible for any retroactive benefits that may be issued at the conclusion of the federal shutdown.