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### **1. What is D-SNAP?**

The Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program offers short-term food help to families in counties that receive a federal disaster declaration. It offers a one-time benefit to help people buy food when they return to their homes and have access to electricity and grocery stores.

The amount of D-SNAP is equal to two months of the maximum amount of SNAP benefits, based on household size. Benefits are issued on an electronic benefit transfer card, called a Lone Star Card, which can be used to purchase food at any SNAP-authorized retailer, such as grocery stores or convenience stores.

D-SNAP is only available for those who weren't currently receiving regular SNAP benefits at the time of the disaster.

### **2. Where can I use the benefits I received from D-SNAP?**

You can use your Lone Star Card to buy food at any SNAP-authorized retailer, such as grocery stores or convenience stores.

### **3. Do D-SNAP funds expire?**

There is no expiration date for use of funds. However, if the Lone Star card is inactive for one year, funds may be removed from the card.

### **4. When can I apply for D-SNAP?**

The application period for D-SNAP related to Hurricane Harvey is closed. D-SNAP was available on the following dates in the 39 counties included in the federal disaster declaration.



<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>DATES AVAILABLE</b>
Aransas	Sept. 19 - 25
Austin	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Bastrop	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Bee	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Brazoria	Sept. 18 - 24
Calhoun	Sept. 18 - 24
Chambers	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Colorado	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Dewitt	Sept. 13 - 19
Fayette	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Fort Bend	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Galveston	Oct. 9 - 15
Goliad	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Gonzalez	Sept. 13 - 19
Hardin	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Harris	Sept. 22 - Oct. 6, Oct. 18 - 20
Jackson	Sept. 28 - Oct. 4
Jasper	Sept. 13 - 19
Jefferson	Oct. 2 - 8
Karnes	Sept. 13 - 19
Kleberg	Sept. 13 - 19
Lavaca	Sept. 13 - 19
Lee	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Liberty	Oct. 2 - 8
Matagorda	Sept. 13 - 19
Montgomery	Oct. 16 - 20
Newton	Sept. 13 - 19
Nueces	Sept. 19-25 and 27
Orange	Sept. 13 - 19
Polk	Sept. 18 - 23, Sept. 25 - 26
Refugio	Sept. 19 - 25
Sabine	Sept. 13 - 19
San Jacinto	Sept. 27 - Oct. 3
San Patricio	Sept. 19 - 25
Tyler	Sept. 13 - 19



<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>DATES AVAILABLE</b>
Victoria	Sept. 28 - Oct. 4
Walker	Sept. 25 - Oct. 1
Waller	Oct. 5 - 11
Wharton	Oct. 9 - 15

**5. Will D-SNAP be available again in other counties since Harris County got an extension?**

D-SNAP is a federal program intended to provide short-term relief to those affected by a disaster but who aren't eligible for the regular SNAP program. Federal guidelines limit the amount of time D-SNAP can be offered in a county, which is usually up to seven days.

The federal Food and Nutrition Service has provided additional clarification to HHS regarding counties seeking approval for an additional D-SNAP filing period. The county must ask for and show an ongoing need for D-SNAP. The county will also have to provide information that shows why the regular SNAP program is insufficient for the affected population that would be served through the additional filing period request.

People with an ongoing need for food assistance who don't already receive regular SNAP benefits can apply for those benefits. The easiest way to apply is by going online to [YourTexasBenefits.com](http://YourTexasBenefits.com).

**6. What should I do if I need help but I didn't apply for D-SNAP?**

You can apply for regular SNAP benefits, which are available to applicants statewide. SNAP benefits provide an ongoing monthly benefit to eligible households to help people buy food and other eligible items they need for good health.

You can apply for SNAP online at [YourTexasBenefits.com](http://YourTexasBenefits.com). If you don't have access to a computer or mobile device, you can call 2-1-1 (or 877-541-7905) and select Option 2 to find other options.

**7. How can I get hot foods using my Lone Star card?**

You can use your Lone Star card to buy hot foods and hot food products from any SNAP retailer (such as grocery stores or convenience stores) in Texas through Oct. 31. Retailers that normally accept SNAP benefits were told to allow purchases of hot and prepared foods.

If you tried to purchase hot or prepared food items at one of these retailers and were denied, please send the name and location of the retailer to Lone Star Business Services by calling 512-206-4748 or by emailing [LoneStar@hpsc.state.tx.us](mailto:LoneStar@hpsc.state.tx.us).

**8. What emergency food benefits are available?**

If you need short term food resources, you can call 2-1-1 and select Option 5 to find places where you can get it, such as food pantries or disaster distribution centers in your area.



## **9. What if I need to renew my SNAP benefits?**

If you are living in one of the 58 counties affected and were supposed to renew your SNAP benefits in August, September or October, you will have your certification periods automatically extended for six months. No action is needed on your part to receive this extension. You will receive a notice when it is time to renew your benefits.

You can use [YourTexasBenefits.com](http://YourTexasBenefits.com) or the Your Texas Benefits mobile app to manage your benefits case and to tell HHS about any address changes. You can sign up for electronic notices to stay informed about your case so you do not miss information while mail delivery is disrupted or you can't receive mail.

## **10. What is the difference between Disaster SNAP and expedited/emergency SNAP?**

If you get SNAP and your benefits were issued on or after Aug. 26, you must report your food loss to get replacement benefits. You will need to complete Form H1855, Affidavit for Nonreceipt or Destroyed Food Stamp Benefits by Sept. 30, to have them replaced. The form is available online and in local offices. Once completed, the signed form can be mailed or returned to a local office. To receive replacement benefits immediately, you must go to a local office. You can call 2-1-1 and select Option 2 to find the closest open local office to you.

The Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program offers a one-time benefit for food assistance to families recovering from a disaster.

To be eligible for D-SNAP, you must:

- Be from a county that has been declared a federal disaster area.
- Have experienced a loss of income, destruction of your home or a disaster-related expense such as temporary shelter or home repairs.
- Not currently get regular SNAP food benefits.

You can only apply for D-SNAP in person at a designated D-SNAP location.

Expedited/Emergency SNAP isn't a specialized program related to disasters. It is expedited processing of applications for regular SNAP benefits that is provided to applicants that meet certain criteria.

Regular SNAP benefits are available to applicants statewide, and provide an ongoing monthly benefit to eligible households to help people buy food and other eligible items they need for good health.

To be eligible for expedited processing for regular, non-disaster SNAP benefits, one of the following conditions must apply:

- Resources of \$100 or less, and you must make less than \$150 a month.
- Combined resources and how much you make a month are less than how much you made last month.
- A family includes a migrant or seasonal farm worker who has \$100 or less in resources and very little income or income has terminated.



Those who qualify for expedited processing must also meet eligibility qualifications, such as income and citizenship criteria.

You can apply for SNAP online at [YourTexasBenefits.com](http://YourTexasBenefits.com). If you do not have access to a computer or mobile device, you can call 2-1-1 (or 877-541-7905) and select Option 2 to find other options.