



UNIONCOUNTY

north carolina

Food and Nutrition Services

FOOD COUNCIL UNION COUNTY
2022



UNIONCOUNTY
north carolina

Food and Nutrition Services

- A federal food assistance program that provides low-income families the food they need for a nutritionally adequate diet. Benefits are issued via [Electronic Benefit Transfer cards \(EBT cards\)](#).
- The [NC FAST ePASS website now includes a Spanish translation option, as well as the ability to complete the full application process in Spanish online.](#)



Eligibility

- **Income:** You may be eligible for Food and Nutrition Services if your total income falls below the appropriate gross income limits for your household size. Eligibility workers determine which income limit applies to your household.

The maximum benefit amount for households receiving Food and Nutrition Services increased by 25% for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

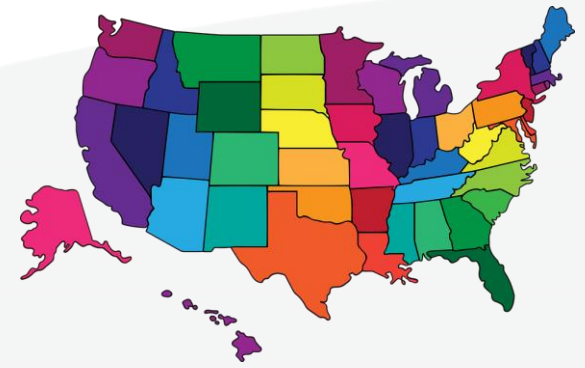
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	130% MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME LIMIT	200% MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME LIMIT	MAXIMUM BENEFIT ALLOTMENT
1	\$1,396	\$2,148	\$250
2	\$1,888	\$2,904	\$459
3	\$2,379	\$3,660	\$658
4	\$2,871	\$4,418	\$835
5	\$3,363	\$5,174	\$992
6	\$3,855	\$5,930	\$1,190
7	\$4,347	\$6,688	\$1,316
8	\$4,839	\$7,444	\$1,504
Each Additional Member	(+492)	(+758)	(+188)

Household Composition:



- Some individuals must participate in Food and Nutrition Services as one household even though they purchase and prepare their meals separately.
- Individuals who must participate as one household include:
 - Individuals living together who purchase/prepare their food together
 - Spouses living together or individuals representing themselves as a married couple
 - Individuals under the age of 22 living with a parent
 - Individuals under 18 under the parental control of an adult living in the home
 - Two unmarried adults living in the same home who are parents of a mutual child

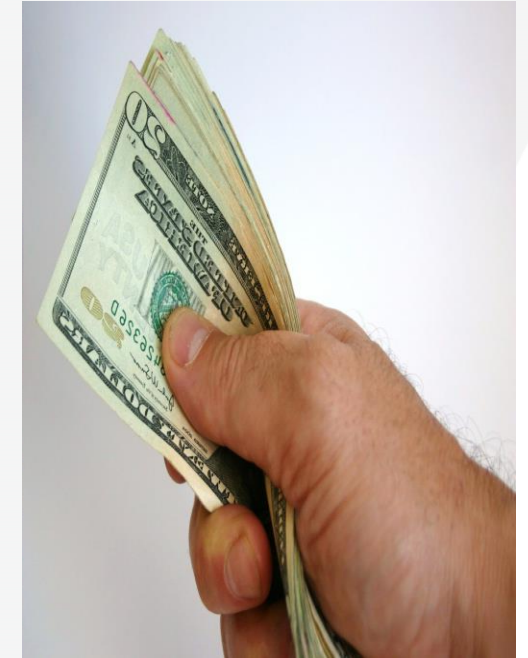
Citizenship/Immigration Status:



- All individuals receiving Food and Nutrition benefits must be US citizens or immigrants admitted to the United States under a specific immigration status.
- Public charge rules that relate to determinations about certain legal resident statuses changed in March 2021. Immigrants should know that they and their families can access many public benefits without concern, if they are eligible, and are encouraged to get information about public charge rules in English and Spanish on the NC Justice Center website.

Resources:

- Some households may be subject to a resource test
 - Households may have \$2,500 in countable resources.
 - Households may have \$3,750 if at least one person is age 60 or older or disabled.
- Certain resources are not counted, such as homes, buildings and land.



Complaints

- You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form to:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil
Rights

400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442 or Email:
program.intake@usda.gov.



Get Prepared

- The person filing for Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) does not have to be the Head of Household.
- An authorized representative can apply on behalf of a Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) unit (A Food and Nutrition Services unit (FNS unit) is a person or a group of people applying for or receiving Food and Nutrition Services benefits.).
- In this situation the identity of both the authorized representative and the head of the FNS unit must be verified.

Acceptable Verification

Examples of acceptable verification include but are not limited to: Driver's license

- Birth certificate
- Work or school ID
- Wage stubs
- Voter registration card
- ID for health benefits
- Citizenship requirement
- Verification of receipt of other social services programs such as but not limited to Medicaid and Work First Family Assistance.

Start Application Process



There are three ways to apply for Food and Nutrition Services.

1. Apply Online with ePASS (secure web-based, self-service tool that enables North Carolinians to both apply for and manage benefits such as Food and Nutrition Services). For Spanish speakers: You may complete the application process in Spanish online. Watch this video to learn about ePass in Spanish. (epass.nc.gov)
2. Apply in Person at your county Department of Social Services (DSS) office. It helps to fill out as much of the application as possible ahead of time.
3. By Telephone, Mail or Turn in at Local DSS Office - Fill out a paper application form and mail to or drop it off at your local county DSS office. (704-296-4300)

Next Steps



- A caseworker must interview you or someone you choose to represent you. The individual interviewed may be the head of household, spouse, any other adult member of the household, or an authorized representative as outlined in FNS 175 Authorized Representative.
- The interview may be conducted in-person, by telephone, or video conference. This is to see if you can get Food and Nutrition Services. If you apply in person or drop off your application at the local DSS Office, you will be asked to stay for an interview. If you are unable to stay for your interview, please tell the receptionist or a caseworker so that we can schedule an interview for you.

EBT ISSUANCE INFORMATION

EBT Issuance Information

Your EBT benefits will be available on the same day each month according to the last digit of your social security number, even if that day is on weekend or holiday.

If your SSN ends in:	Your benefits will be available after 6 a.m. on the:
1	3rd day of every month
2	5th day of every month
3	7th day of every month
4	9th day of every month
5	11th day of every month
6	13th day of every month
7	15th day of every month
8	17th day of every month
9	19th day of every month
0	21st day of every month

Showing 1 to 10 of 10 entries

Benefits are available on the 3rd day of every month if you do not have a Social Security Number.

Remember to check your balance before you shop.

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) are not issued following the same timeframe as regular FNS benefits on an EBT card. For more information on P-EBT and when benefits will be issued, please visit www.ncdhhs.gov/pebt.