

Delaware Will Issue Monthly Emergency Benefits on Nov. 23

Will Be Distributed to SNAP Households and to Eligible TANF, General Assistance Households

NEW CASTLE (Nov. 22, 2021) – The Delaware Division of Social Services will issue emergency benefits for November to eligible households as part of the state’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Benefits will be issued as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and two cash assistance programs – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and General Assistance (GA). The SNAP emergency food benefit will be issued Tuesday, Nov. 23, and should be available on recipients’ Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards Wednesday, Nov. 24. TANF and GA households should receive an emergency cash benefit check on or after Tuesday, Nov. 23.

All households with open SNAP cases will receive at least \$95 in emergency food benefits, to be issued as follows:

1. SNAP households receiving the maximum food benefit amount for their household size or a prorated initial benefit will receive \$95 in emergency food benefits.
2. SNAP households with a calculated emergency food benefit amount less than \$95 will have their emergency benefit increased to \$95.
3. SNAP households with a calculated emergency benefit amount of \$95 or more will continue to receive the calculated emergency benefit amount to increase the household’s monthly benefit up to the maximum benefit amount for their household size.

The emergency assistance for TANF and GA families will increase a household’s monthly benefit for each program up to

the maximum benefit amount for their household size. Households that already receive the maximum TANF or GA benefit amount or that have a prorated benefit in the month of November are not eligible for the November emergency cash funds.

The Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) has issued emergency benefits each month to eligible households as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, which was signed into law in March 2020.

“The undeniable impact of COVID-19 in our state has affected vulnerable families and populations the most,” said DHSS Secretary Molly Magarik. “These increased benefits not only help families and individuals struggling to pay for food and other basic necessities due to the economic impact of the pandemic, but they also offer critical support with the holidays coming up. We are grateful to provide these increased benefits each month, but especially during the holiday season.”

How the monthly emergency benefit is calculated: A household’s monthly emergency benefit equals the current maximum benefit amount for the household size minus the household’s current monthly benefit amount. For example, based on current USDA limits for SNAP benefits, if a household of one gets \$100 in regular monthly benefits, that household will receive \$150 in emergency benefits (\$250 maximum benefit minus \$100 monthly benefit).

Here are the current maximum monthly benefit amounts per household size for SNAP, TANF, and General Assistance:

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS

| Number in SNAP Household | Maximum Benefit Amount |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | \$250 |
| 2 | \$459 |

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|---|---------|
| 3 | \$658 |
| 4 | \$835 |
| 5 | \$992 |
| 6 | \$1,190 |
| 7 | \$1,316 |
| 8 | \$1,504 |

Each additional person \$188

* New increased amount effective 10/2021

An estimated 56,166 Delaware households will receive the emergency SNAP allotment in November, totaling about \$10.5 million in emergency food benefits for the month.

EMERGENCY CASH BENEFITS

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

| Number in TANF | Household Maximum Benefit Amount |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | \$201 |
| 2 | \$270 |
| 3 | \$338 |
| 4 | \$407 |
| 5 | \$475 |
| 6 | \$544 |
| 7 | \$612 |
| 8 | \$681 |
| 9 | \$750 |
| 10 | \$819 |

General Assistance (GA)

| Number in GA Household | Maximum Benefit Amount |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | \$79 |
| 2 | \$107 |
| 3 | \$144 |
| 4 | \$169 |
| 5 | \$209 |
| 6 | \$239 |

An estimated 152 households will be eligible to receive emergency cash assistance benefits in November, totaling about \$20,250 in emergency benefits for the month.

In addition to the emergency benefits, households will receive their regular benefits for November on the usual issuance dates.

For more information about DSS's benefit programs in response to the pandemic, go to the division's webpage. To apply for benefits, go to DHSS' online application portal [Delaware ASSIST](#) or call 1-866-843-7212. To reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, clients are asked to contact the Division of Social Services by phone or online. If clients do need an in-person appointment, they are reminded that face masks are required for all state employees and visitors to state offices and facilities.

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The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of life of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations.