



Federal Government Shutdown 2025

Questions and Answers

Effective: 11/1/2025

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.

What will happen if I apply for SNAP in November?

- If you apply for SNAP in November, your county JFS agency will process your application normally. If you are eligible, you 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 if I applied before November but my application is still pending?

- If you applied for SNAP prior to November but your application is pending, the county agency will process your application normally. We are waiting to hear from the federal government if benefits you are eligible for prior to November can be issued before the shutdown ends.

How can I check my case/benefits?

- You can log into the Ohio Benefits self-service portal at benefits.ohio.gov or call 1-844-640-6446 to speak to someone about your case. You can also call the number on the back of your EBT card or use the Connect EBT app to get balance information.

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

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

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

- Yes. You may continue to use benefits issued to your EBT card prior to November 1, 2025, at any SNAP-authorized retailer. The suspension applies only to November 2025 benefits and does not impact any prior benefits. The use of benefits at eligible retailers is not impacted.

Will my county JFS office remain open?

- At this time, county JFS offices will remain open.

Do I need to meet my requirements in November?

- Yes. You are required to maintain all program requirements to remain eligible for any retroactive benefits that may be issued at the conclusion of the federal shutdown.

Where can I go to get help with food?

- Your local food bank or food pantry may be able to help meet your food needs. To find your local food bank or pantry, go to ohiofoodbanks.org