



Candice Broce

DHS Commissioner | DFCS Director

Jon Anderson

Deputy Commissioner
Office of Family Independence



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Office of Family Independence

- The Office of Family Independence's goal is to strengthen Georgians by providing individuals and families access to services that promote self-sufficiency and independence.
- **Programs offered:**
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Medical Assistance
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)



SNAP Overview

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation's primary response to hunger and food insecurity.
- Benefits are available to most low-income people who meet both financial and nonfinancial requirements.
- The Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) partners with vendors, retailers, community liaisons to ensure the distribution of educational information as well as healthy food options in over 10,300 locations for Georgia's most vulnerable families.
- Online, curbside and in-store pickup grocery options are provided to all recipients, with regard to the needs of elderly and medically homebound constituents.

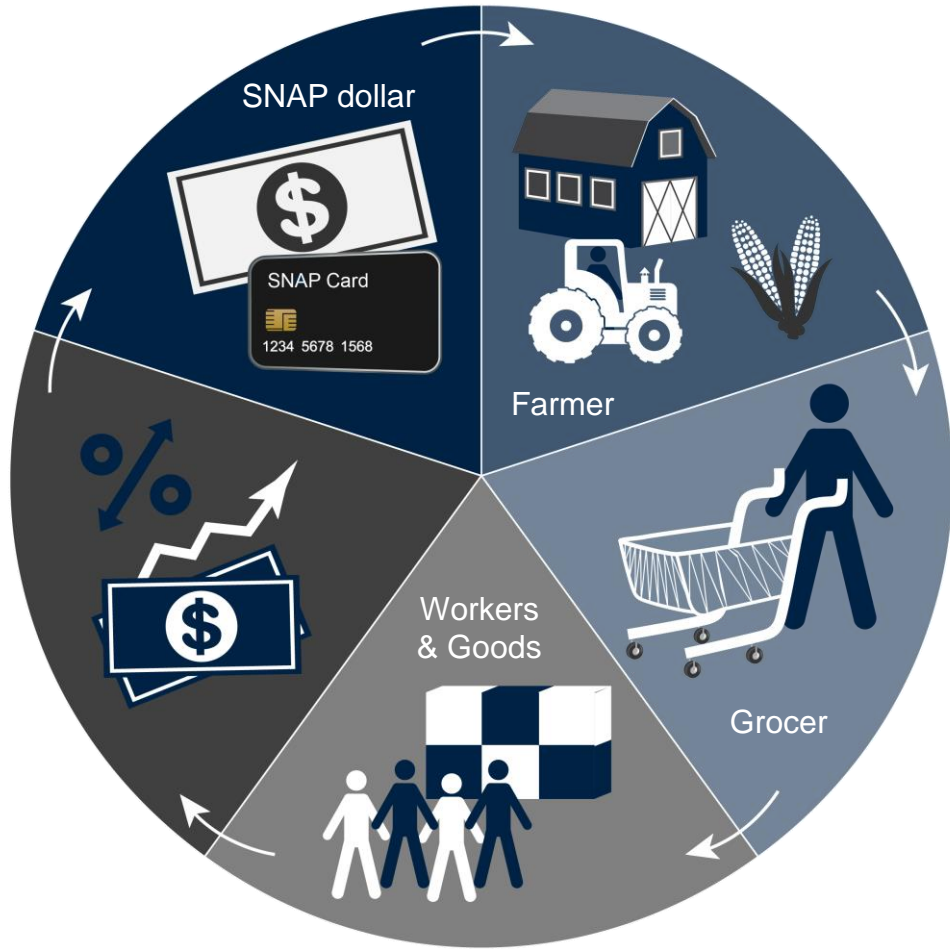
Office of Family Independence

- Serves 1,356,352 families statewide across all program areas (SNAP, TANF and Medical Assistance)
- 159 county offices
 - 14 regions
 - Seven districts
 - Customer Contact Center
 - Atlanta and Albany

Partnerships

- USDA
 - FNS
- EBT vendor
- Retailers
- Farmer's markets
- Food banks
- Community liaisons

Economic Impact of SNAP in Georgia



Moody's Analytics estimates that **\$1** in SNAP benefits generates **\$1.70** in economic activity.



SNAP households receive benefits on electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, which can be used only to purchase food at one of the **263,100** authorized retail locations around the country – including some **10,300** in Georgia.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Emergency Allotments

Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

WHAT IS IT?

SNAP is a federal program that operates under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide a monthly nutritional assistance benefit to eligible households.

Emergency allotments increase an eligible households' monthly SNAP allotment to the maximum allowable benefits based on household size.

P-EBT is a temporary food benefit available to families with children who would have had access to free or reduced-price meals if schools were open and not 100% virtually attended.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

SNAP eligibility is based on financial and non-financial criteria. Individuals **must apply to receive SNAP benefits.**

Emergency allotments are provided to **current SNAP participants** who are not already receiving the maximum allowable benefits.

Eligible households include **students who are learning virtually for at least five consecutive days and qualify for free or reduced-price meals at school or are enrolled in schools that provide free meals through the Community Eligibility Provision.**

APPLICATION REQUIRED?

YES

NO

NO

Maximum Allotments

	FFY20	FFY21	Includes Pandemic 15% Increase (TEMPORARY)	FFY22	Difference between FFY21 & FFY22 with 15%	Difference between FFY21 & FFY22 without 15%
HH Size						
1	\$ 194.00	\$ 204.00	\$ 234.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 46.00
2	\$ 355.00	\$ 374.00	\$ 430.00	\$ 459.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 85.00
3	\$ 509.00	\$ 535.00	\$ 616.00	\$ 658.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 123.00
4	\$ 646.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 782.00	\$ 835.00	\$ 53.00	\$ 155.00
5	\$ 768.00	\$ 807.00	\$ 929.00	\$ 991.00	\$ 62.00	\$ 184.00
6	\$ 921.00	\$ 969.00	\$ 1,114.00	\$ 1,190.00	\$ 76.00	\$ 221.00
7	\$1,018.00	\$ 1,071.00	\$ 1,232.00	\$ 1,316.00	\$ 84.00	\$ 245.00
8	\$1,164.00	\$ 1,224.00	\$ 1,408.00	\$ 1,504.00	\$ 96.00	\$ 280.00
1	\$ 146.00	\$ 153.00	\$ 176.00	\$ 188.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 35.00

COVID-19 Accommodations

- Extend renewal certification periods
- Use self-attestation for certain types of verification
- Waive interview at certification and recertification when ID is verified, and mandatory verifications are complete
- Suspend auto-terminations for cases with renewals due
- Allow student pandemic allowances
- Administer P-SNAP
- Provide 15% allowance

Innovations

- Expanded online and telephonic application support
- Introduced Online Purchasing Program
- Secured DDS interface for real time results
- Deployed Work Number Integration
- Deployed Child Support Integration
- Initiated alternate renewal BOTs

Questions

Contact Us

**Georgia Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
Customer Contact Center
Toll-Free: (877) 423-4746**

Constituent Services
customer_services_dfcs@dhs.ga.gov
(404) 657-3433

Georgia Gateway
<https://gateway.ga.gov/>

Family Independence Online Contact Form
<https://dfcs.georgia.gov/family-independence-online-contact-form>

Customers with Disabilities: Requesting a Reasonable Modification and Communication Assistance
<https://dfcs.georgia.gov/adasection-504-and-civil-rights>





Thank You

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Georgia Division of Family
& Children Services
2 Peachtree Street, Suite 19-454
Atlanta, GA 30303