

FIRSTNAMELASTNAME
PO BOX 94003
BATON ROUGE LA 70804

SNAP BENEFITS WILL RETURN TO REGULAR AMOUNT IN MARCH

Dear [Name],

During COVID, Louisiana households have been receiving extra Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Due to recent action by the federal government, these extra payments are ending in March.

Your regular benefit amount without the extra benefits is **[AMOUNT]**.

Why are your benefits decreasing?

In 2020 Congress temporarily increased SNAP benefits because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This means SNAP recipients in Louisiana, and across the nation, have been getting more benefits each month than they normally would. Because the federal government has ended these extra payments, your monthly benefits will return to the regular benefit amount beginning March 2023.

If you have a Simplified Report or recertification due February 2023, the benefit amount listed may be different. If you are still eligible for benefits beginning March 2023, your ongoing benefit amount will be included on a Notice of Decision that will be mailed to you upon completion of your Simplified Report or recertification. You will return to your regular ongoing benefit amount of **[AMOUNT]**.

Because this is the result of federal action, Louisiana DCFS does not have control over this change. For more information on SNAP eligibility and benefits, please visit our website (www.dcf.la.gov/snap).

What do you need to do?

This letter does not require you to do anything. Beginning in March 2023 you will continue to get your regular monthly SNAP benefit as long as you are eligible. When you need to recertify, we will send you another notice with instructions.

You **may** be able to increase your regular SNAP benefit amount by telling DCFS about changes such as:

- Loss of income
- Increase in housing costs (rent or mortgage)
- Increase in child or disabled adult care costs
- Medical costs over \$35 for anyone in your SNAP household who is 60 or older or has a disability

You can report changes to Louisiana DCFS by calling us at 1-888-LAHELP-U (1-888-524-3578) or by completing the "Report My Changes" form on your CAFÉ account at www.dcf.la.gov/cafe.

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How to check how much benefits are on your EBT card

To check the balance on your EBT card, you can call the EBT customer service line at 1-888-997-1117, or review your account on the web at www.LifeInCheckEBT.com or in the LifeInCheck EBT mobile app.

If you have other questions

If you have questions or need more information, please call us at 1-888-LAHELP-U (1-888-524-3578), Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. You may also visit our website (www.dcfcs.la.gov/snap).

If you need more help with food

If you need more help with food, please call 211 to find out what resources are available in your community.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (833) 620-1071, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to:

1. Mail:
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
1320 Braddock Place, Room 334
Alexandria, VA 22314; or
2. Fax:
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email:
FNSCIVILRIGHTSCOMPLAINTS@usda.gov

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