



Food Programs

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) administers several programs to fight hunger in Ohio. You may be eligible for more than one of the following:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) –You may qualify if your household’s gross monthly income is at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or if someone in the household is elderly or disabled. For more information, see the “Food Assistance” fact sheet.
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) –You may qualify if your household’s gross monthly income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. For more information, please see below.
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) –You may qualify if you are 60 or older, if your household’s gross monthly income is at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, and if you live in a county that has CSFP. For more information, please see below.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program

What is TEFAP?

TEFAP is a federal nutrition assistance program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Ohioans by providing food at no cost to them. This food is distributed through many of Ohio’s food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters.

Who is eligible to get TEFAP food?

You are eligible to receive food from TEFAP if your total household income is below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. These guidelines change every year; you can find this year’s guidelines at aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/index.cfm.

Where can I apply?

Visit jfs.ohio.gov/ofam/TEFAP/Emergency_Food_Assistance_Program_Map1.pdf to find the distribution location nearest you. This map will help you find the food bank responsible for your area, and the food bank will then direct you to the nearest food pantry, soup kitchen or shelter. You must sign a statement certifying your income at the food pantry.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

What is CSFP?

CSFP is a federal nutrition assistance program that provides low-income, elderly individuals with a monthly box of food. The box does not contain a complete diet, but provides nutrients typically lacking in the diets of the elderly population. It includes a variety of foods, such as nonfat dry and evaporated milk; juice; oats and ready-to-eat cereal; rice and pasta; peanut butter; dry beans or peas; canned meat, poultry or tuna; and canned fruits and vegetables. Sixty of Ohio’s 88 counties participate in CSFP.

Who is eligible for CSFP?

If you are age 60 or older, if you live in one of the participating CSFP counties, and if your total household gross income is at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, you may apply for CSFP.

Where can I apply?

Visit jfs.ohio.gov/ofam/pdf/CSFPmap0216.stm to see if your county offers CSFP. If it does, contact your nearest food bank. Staff there will direct you to the nearest location to apply.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers SNAP, TEFAP and CSFP.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) 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. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the **USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form** (AD-3027) found online at ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by one of the following methods:

- Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- Fax:
(202) 690-7442; or
- Email:
program.intake@usda.gov

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