EBT on Campus: Overview for WA Campuses

November 17, 2020 9am - 10:30am

Department of Social and Health Services Washington Student Achievement Council State Board for Community & Technical Colleges





- Continue to build shared understanding of food insecurity for postsecondary students in Washington, including recent state policy efforts to increase SNAP access on campuses
- Learn about the process to accept EBT on campus
- Discuss campus questions and share resources
- Consider next steps for campuses



Food benefits are part of the puzzle



"United States Government Accountability Office Report to Congressional Requesters FOOD INSECURITY," 2018. https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/696254.pdf.

Allison, Tom. "Rethinking SNAP Benefits for College Students." February 2018. http://younginvincibles.org/wp- content/uploads/2018/02/Rethinking_SNAP_benefits.pdf



Policy promoting postsecondary food security

2SHB 1893 Rep. Entenman

Providing emergency assistance to postsecondary students and increasing food security

- → EBT Card Use on College Campuses
- → Work Study Allowance for SNAP
- → Report on Categorical Eligibility
- → SNAP Awareness and Access Campaign
 - Financial Aid Award Letter Notifications
 - BFET Expansion Proposal
 - ABAWD Navigation Model



Plan A	Plan B	Plan C	
 Waiver requested to 	 Demonstration 	 Orient campus 	

- Waiver requested to allow campuses to accept EBT without USDA requirements
- Denied October 2019

- Demonstration
 Project not
 statewide submitted Dec 2019
- Denied

- Orient campus teams to EBT retailer process, resource and support
- If campuses want to move forward, provide follow up support.





How do you become a SNAP authorized retailer?

- 1. Carry and Sell Staple food items
 - Meet Criterion A or
 - Meet Criterion B
 - Other possible considerations
- 2. Apply Online
 - Single retailer or Multiple Retailer application options
- 3. Ensure your 3rd party process accept Electronic Benefits Transaction (EBT) cards also known as the Quest Card.





Carry and Sell Eligible Food Items

Criterion A - Stock STAPLE Food Items

Staple food items include and assortment of items in the 4 main categories

- Fruits and vegetables;
- Meat, poultry, and fish;
- Dairy products;
- Breads and cereals



Accessory Foods

- Snack and dessert foods;
- Carbonated or un-carbonated beverages (except milk, plant-based milk alternatives, and 100% fruit/vegetable juice).





Carry and Sell Eligible Food Items Criterion A - Staple Foods



A store must have 3 stocking units of 2 different varieties for each staple food category on a continuous basis. (such some stores such as small convenience stores and some other specialty stores).







Carry and Sell Eligible Food Items

Criterion B - 50% of Gross Retail Sales

A store must have more than 50% of its total gross retail sales from the sale of staple foods (some examples include as Farmer's markets and Butcher Shops)



Criterion B Calculation and Requirements:

If Staple Food Sales are more than 50 percent of Total Gross Retail Sales, then the store meets Criterion B requirements.





Carry and Sell Eligible Food Items

Other Considerations

Need for access – remote location determined by FNS

Restaurant Meals Program (RMS)

Co-Location







Application Process

Go to the SNAP Program Application Page. Here you will be able to:

- 1. Get a USDA Account
 - https://www.eauth.usda.gov/eauth/b/usda/registration
- 2. Complete the Application
 - Criterion A or B
 - Other Category (remote location, RMS)
 - Multi Store Owner (MSO)
- 3. Submit supporting Documents
- 4. Check application status.
- 5. Recertify as required



EBT Retailer application process

Accepting the EBT Card

- Once certified as a SNAP retailer, your retailer will need to ensure that they are able to accept EBT sales.
- SNAP EBT Third Party Processor List-

Company a store uses to process Debit, Credit and EBT card Sales

EBT Cash

Campus stores, cafeterias, etc., can accept EBT cash benefits without an USDA application. This would allow student who receive cash benefits to use them to purchase food and other non-food items on campus.











SNAP Retailer Application:

- a. Consider:
 - i. Who will oversee our application process?
 - ii. Who else needs to be on our team?

a. Check out resources

- i. Video
- ii. Website

a. Create a plan for Criterion A (or B or other category) i. Next application workshop in winter quarter/semester (TBA)





Next Steps: EBT Cash



EBT cash benefits access:

- Why?
 - Allows students to use their cards on campus.
 - Can be done whether or not you apply to be a SNAP EBT retailer
- Retailer next steps:
 - Find out if your Third Party Processor accepts EBT Quest
 - Options if not:
 - Contact a Third Party Processor from list;
 - Either add a Quest point-of-sale machine, or switch processor





Please type your questions for the presenters in the chat box.





Thank you Presenters!

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For more information and resources: https://wsac.wa.gov/student-supports



