



Impact of the Federal Government Shutdown on SNAP Benefits: What You Need to Know

⇒ **Most people got their February SNAP benefits early**

Due to the federal shutdown, most Massachusetts SNAP households got their February benefits *early* - around Jan 17th. Households did not get SNAP again in February if they got SNAP early.

⇒ **DTA is issuing March SNAP benefits a few days early to most households.**

To shorten the time between the early February SNAP and March SNAP, DTA will issue March SNAP between March 1 and March 4. This means you may get SNAP earlier than normal (households in MA usually get SNAP between the 1st & 14th of the month).

In April you will get SNAP on your normal date.

⇒ **You do not need to rush to spend your SNAP benefits.** SNAP will stay on your EBT card until you decide to use it! It will not go away.

⇒ **If DTA needs paperwork to approve your SNAP or keep your SNAP case open, send them the paperwork.** The fastest ways to get paperwork to DTA are:

- Upload documents on DTACONNECT.com
- Take a picture on your smartphone and send through the DTA Connect app
- Go to a local DTA office

⇒ **If you don't get SNAP, you can apply!** Go to [Mass.gov/SNAP](https://www.mass.gov/SNAP) for more information.

⇒ **Retailers are accepting SNAP as normal.** Call DTA if there are any problems.

- **For up to date information from DTA go to: [Mass.gov/DTA](https://www.mass.gov/DTA).**
- **Call DTA at 1-877-382-2363 with questions. There may be long wait times.**
- **For help with food resources in your community, call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline: 1-800-645-8333**