

STATE OF NEW MEXICO Human Services Department Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

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NEWS RELEASE

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Extension of SNAP emergency benefits will continue in May

Emergency benefits end 30-days after the end of the Public Health Emergency

Clients should ensure their contact information is up-to-date

SANTA FE – New Mexicans receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits will continue to receive the maximum amount for their household size during the month of May, announced the New Mexico Human Services Department.

Maximum supplemental benefits distributed during the pandemic will expire 30-days after the end of the Public Health Emergency is announced, the date is expected on or around July 15, 2022. Households approved for SNAP will continue to receive their pre-pandemic level benefits based on eligibility, and will not see an interruption of services.

Supported by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, the State Human Services Department has ensured SNAP clients qualified for uninterrupted benefits throughout the Public Health Emergency. To ensure continued uninterrupted benefits as long as possible, clients should ensure their contact information is up-to-date.

The easiest way to do this is to make sure contact information is up-to-date on the YesNM website: www.yes.state.nm.us. Users can simply and easily update their address using the chat functionality there. Step-by-step directions on how to update your address are available here. Individuals seeking to apply for or check their SNAP benefits may apply online through www.yes.state.nm.us or by phone at 1-800-283-4465.

"Since March 2020, \$821,577,881 Emergency SNAP Benefits have been distributed to 289,392 New Mexico households," said Human Services Department Deputy Secretary Angela Medrano. "We know that the pandemic has been a struggle for many families, and we are glad to have been able to provide additional assistance to help. We will continue to support New Mexicans with critical benefits that serve our most vulnerable families."

The Human Services Department would like to remind New Mexicans who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits that they can double up food bucks and purchase more fruits and vegetables when they spend SNAP EBT card dollars at participating farmers markets, farm stands, mobile markets and grocery stores. For example, if you spend \$10 from your SNAP EBT Card at a participating outlet, they will give you another \$10 to buy fresh fruits and veggies grown in New Mexico. There are nearly 80 locations across New Mexico. Learn more at: https://www.doubleupnm.org/.

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We talk, interpret and smile in all languages. We provide written information to our customers in both English and Spanish and interpretation services are available in 58 languages through our provider, <u>CTS Language Link</u>. For our hearing, and speech impaired customers, we utilize <u>Relay New Mexico</u>, a free 24-hour service that ensures equal communication access via the telephone to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind or speech disabled.

The Human Services Department provides services and benefits to 1,062,823 New Mexicans through several programs including: the Medicaid Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Support Program, and several Behavioral Health Services.

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