

End of CalFresh Emergency Allotments FAQ

Updated: 4/8/2022

1. What are CalFresh Emergency Allotments?

CalFresh Emergency Allotments are temporary increases to regular CalFresh benefit amounts. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress authorized Emergency Allotments to help meet food needs. This means that since March 2020, households received an increase of at least \$95 in CalFresh benefits per month.

2. Why are CalFresh Emergency Allotments ending?

CalFresh Emergency Allotments will end the month of February 2023. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 ends the issuance of CalFresh Emergency Allotments to households in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. How will this impact my CalFresh benefits?

A final Emergency Allotment will be issued in March 2023. You will get less CalFresh beginning April 2023. The reduction in benefits may be significant for some families.

4. Will I still get CalFresh benefits after the CalFresh Emergency Allotments end?

You will continue to get your regular CalFresh benefits as long as you remain eligible. Your benefit amounts are based on your circumstances, including your household size, income, and deductions.

Make sure you're getting all of the CalFresh benefits you are eligible for by ensuring the county has your most recent information such as:

- Housing costs
- Medical expenses (only if you are age 60+ or have a disability)
- Dependent or childcare costs

To update your information or circumstances, you may contact your local county social services office by calling 1-877-847-3663 or to visit your local county social services office in person, you can use our office locator map at www.CalFreshFood.org.

5. Can I request a fair hearing on this change?

This change is due to Federal regulations and is not considered a reduction to your regular CalFresh benefit amount. A state hearing judge cannot order payment of Emergency Allotments after they have stopped.

6. Where can I find additional food resources in my community?

You can get free food from your local food bank. There are food banks throughout California that give free food to people in their communities. To connect to a food bank, please visit <https://www.cafoodbanks.org/find-food/>.