



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

⇒ **Most people got their February SNAP benefits early – around January 17th.**

Due to the federal shutdown, most Massachusetts SNAP households got their February benefits *early* - around Jan 17th.

If you did not get early SNAP benefits because you recently did paperwork for DTA, you should get your SNAP benefits on your normal day in February.

⇒ **DTA is NOT issuing more SNAP in February. SNAP benefits will be issued in March.**

You will not get extra benefits in February if you got your February SNAP early. Keep this in mind when you are making decisions about buying food. Your next SNAP benefits will be issued in March.

⇒ **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!** DTA is processing all cases.

⇒ **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**