

Application for Food Stamp benefits

To apply: You have the right to apply for Food Stamp benefits at any time.

- Benefits are provided from the date Family Support Division (FSD) receives your application which must contain your name, address and signature. Please complete sections 2 through 6 to help FSD process your application faster.
- You can drop off, mail or fax your application. Interviews can be completed face-to-face or by phone. Call the Family Support Division (FSD) at **855-FSD-INFO** (855-373-4636) or visit an FSD office to complete this as soon as possible. We may ask you for proof of some of the information you give to FSD.

Date of application: If approved, your Food Stamp benefits are provided from the date FSD receives your application. This is your filing date. If you are in an institution and apply for Food Stamp benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at the same time, your filing date is the date of release from the institution.

Authorized Representative: You can choose more than one person or facility to complete your application and/or manage your benefits on your behalf. They will act as your authorized representative. If you want an authorized representative, complete the Authorized Representative Form (FA-6ARF and FS-6ARI) at <http://dss.mo.gov/fsd/fstamp> or call FSD.

Section 1 – Tell us about yourself

Your full name (first, middle, last): _____ ☐ I am homeless

Home address (street, city, state, zip): _____

_____ County: _____

Mailing address, if different: _____

_____ County: _____

Phone 1: _____ ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work ☐ Other

Phone 2: _____ ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work ☐ Other

E-mail address: _____

The best way to contact you: ☐ Call ☐ Email ☐ Mail ☐ Text (not available everywhere)

UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AND THE REGULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, I HEREBY APPLY FOR FOOD STAMP BENEFITS.

➔Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Section 2 – Key questions for faster service

If eligible, you will receive your benefits within 7 days of filing your application if you answer “yes” to any of the questions below. Otherwise, you will receive your benefits within 30 days of filing your application.

1. Does your household expect to receive less than \$150 in income this month and have \$100 or less available in cash and/or in a bank account? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Does your household have rent/mortgage and/or utility costs that are more than your total income, available cash, and bank accounts for this month? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Does your household include a migrant or seasonal farm worker whose income has stopped and whose available cash and bank accounts do not exceed \$100? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Help FSD verify your identity for faster service. FSD will try to verify your identity electronically. Please (1) include a copy of your identification with your application, or (2) bring someone such as a friend, family member, landlord, or employer to any FSD office, or (3) list a contact below in order to help us verify your identity. FSD will call this person if needed.

Name of person to
verify your identity:

Phone
Number:

Section 3 - Household members

Write your information on line 1. Enter the information of **all** the people who live in your household, including your **spouse**, any children under age 22 who are in your household at least half (50%) of the time, and **anyone** who eats the **majority of their meals** in your household. Include all household members regardless of their citizenship or immigration status.

Citizenship or immigration status does not automatically disqualify an applicant from receiving Food Stamp benefits. Racial and ethnic information is collected to assure that program benefits are distributed without regard to race, color, or national origin. **Providing this information is optional and does not affect your eligibility or the amount of Food Stamp benefits you receive.**

Providing the Social Security Number (SSN) and immigration status of each household member is voluntary.

However, you will not receive Food Stamp benefits for individuals who do not provide a SSN and/or immigration status. Immigration status of applicant household members may be subject to verification by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Information provided by USCIS may affect your eligibility and benefit level.

Full Legal Name	Sex **	Relationship to applicant	Date of birth	SSN	Hispanic or Latino?	Race *
1.		Self				
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						

*List ALL that apply:

1 - White 2 - Black/African American 3 - American Indian/Alaska Native

4 - Asian 5 - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

**Not required for Food Stamp eligibility determination

If you do not have enough space for all household members, attach an additional list with their information.

1. **Do you and all the people in your household buy and eat (cook) meals together?** ☐ Yes ☐ No
If no, who does not buy and eat (cook) with your household? _____
2. List anyone who is a boarder in your household: _____
3. List anyone who is a foster child or foster adult in your household: _____
4. List anyone who is not a U.S. citizen in your household: _____
5. Is English your preferred language? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 If no, what is the language spoken most often in your home? _____

Section 4 - Household declarations

Answer "yes" or "no" to each of the questions in this section. For each question you answered "yes," explain in the space provided. A **"yes" response to any of the questions in this section may result in a disqualification for Food Stamp benefits for the person in which the "yes" answer applies.**

1. Have you or any member of your household been convicted of buying or selling Food Stamp benefits of \$500 or more after 9-22-96? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
2. Are you or any member of your household hiding or running from the law to avoid prosecution, custody, or jail for a crime (or attempted crime) that is a felony? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
3. Are you or any member of your household violating a condition of probation or parole? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
4. Have you or anyone in your household made false statements about your identity or address to receive Food Stamp benefits in 2 or more households at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
5. Have you or any member of your household been convicted in a federal or state court of a felony committed after 8-22-96 related to illegal possession, use, or distribution of a controlled substance? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
6. Have you or any member of your household ever been convicted of fraudulently receiving duplicate Food Stamp benefits in any state after 9-22-96? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
7. Have you or any member of your household been convicted of trading Food Stamp benefits for guns, ammunitions, or explosives after 9-22-96? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
8. Have you or any member of your household ever been convicted of trading Food Stamp benefits for drugs after 9-22-96? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____

Section 5 - Household information

Answer these questions for yourself and all of the people who live with you (as listed in Section 3).

1. Has anyone received Food Stamp benefits in a state other than Missouri within the past 30 days? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____ State: _____
2. Is anyone disabled? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____
3. Is anyone age 18 to 49 and enrolled in school? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, who? _____ School: _____

Resources

Resources are bank accounts and other types of money you own by yourself or with other people.

1. Does anyone have a bank account or is anyone's name on a bank account? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, who? _____ Balance: \$ _____ Bank name: _____
 _____ \$ _____

2. Does anyone have any other cash? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, who? _____ Balance: \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

3. Does anyone have stocks, bonds, and/or retirement accounts such as an IRA? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, who? _____ Cash Value: \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

1. Does anyone earn income or money from working? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list who gets it, their employer, and monthly gross income before taxes or deductions:

Who earns income from working?	Employer	Monthly amount
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$

2. Does anyone receive income or money from the following sources? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, check the source and list who gets it and the monthly amount:

<input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Income (Retirement, Disability or Survivor's)		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Security Income (SSI)		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Administration (VA) benefits		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Child support		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment benefits		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Gifts or donations		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Student loans, grants, scholarships		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Other sources—list here:		
1.	1.	\$
2.	2.	\$

3. **Has anyone's income stopped or been reduced in the last 30 days?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, whose? _____ Date and amount of last check _____

Expenses

Expenses are the bills you are responsible for paying.

1. Does anyone pay rent or a house payment for the home you live in? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the total monthly amount: \$ _____ Who pays? _____
2. Does anyone pay the following utility expenses for the home you live in? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Electric:	Does it heat or cool your home?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Who pays?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas:	Does it heat or cool your home?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Who pays?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other fuel:	Does it heat or cool your home?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Who pays?	_____
	List the fuel:	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Phone	Who pays?	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Trash	Who pays?	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	Who pays?	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer	Who pays?	_____			
3. Does anyone pay court-ordered child support and/or alimony? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the total monthly amount: \$ _____
4. Does anyone who is either disabled or age 60 and older have medical expenses such as insurance or Medicare premiums, doctor visits, in-home care, transportation for medical care, or eyeglasses? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list the total monthly amount: \$ _____

Section 6 – Notices (Please read and sign page 8)

USDA NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Civil Rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (AD- 3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form.

To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DSS NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: The Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) is committed to the principles of equal employment opportunity and equal access to services. Accordingly, DSS employees, applicants for employment, and contractors are treated equitably regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, pregnancy, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or veteran status.

FSD FAIR HEARING RIGHTS: You have the right to a hearing if you have applied for or are receiving Food Stamp benefits, and the following happens:

- FSD decides that you are not eligible and you think you are.
- FSD provides you with Food Stamp benefits and then reduces or stops the benefits and you think the reasons are wrong.
- You disagree with the information used to determine the benefit amount or disagree with the benefit amount.
- FSD refuses to take your application.
- FSD does not act promptly on your request for help and you think that they have had enough time to do so.

If your application has been refused or rejected or any action on your case has already been taken, you may request a hearing within 90 days of the refusal or action. If the proposed action will change or stop your benefits and you request a hearing within ten days from the date of the notice, you may continue to receive the same benefits until the hearing decision. You or your representative may request a hearing by phone, in-person, or in writing. Your case can be presented by a household member, or a representative such as legal counsel, relative, friend or other spokesperson.

YOU MAY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM RECEIVING FOOD STAMP BENEFITS IF YOU:

- Sell your Food Stamp benefits for cash or consideration other than eligible food, either directly, indirectly, in complicity or collusion with others, or acting alone.
- Lie or hide information to get Food Stamp benefits that your household should not get.
- Use Food Stamp benefits to buy nonfood items, such as alcohol or cigarettes, or to pay on credit accounts.
- Purchase a product with Food Stamp benefits that has a container requiring a return deposit with the intent of obtaining cash by discarding the product and returning the container for the deposit amount.
- Intentionally purchase products with Food Stamp benefits in exchange for cash. For example, do not purchase food to make products for resale.
- Pay for food purchased on credit with Food Stamp benefits.
- Use or have in your possession EBT cards that are not yours.
- Trade or sell EBT cards or provide food purchased with Food Stamp benefits to non-household members.

NOTIFICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FRAUD PROVISIONS

It is against the law to lie to receive Food Stamps or to sell or trade your Food Stamp benefits. Excessive Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card replacement requests may result in a referral for fraud investigation. 7 USC 2015(b)(1) any person who has been found by any state or federal court or administrative agency to have intentionally made a false or misleading statement, or misrepresented, concealed or withheld facts or committed any act that constitutes a violation of this act, the regulations issued thereunder, or any state statute, for the purpose of using, presenting, transferring, acquiring, receiving, or possessing Food Stamp benefits shall, immediately upon the rendering of such determination, become ineligible for further participation in the program for a period of 1 year upon the first occasion of any such determination, 2 years for the second occasion and permanently upon the third occasion.

Applicants cannot violate the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 which includes the following:

- **Any member who breaks any of the rules on purpose can be ineligible from the Food Stamp Program for one year, up to permanently, fined up to \$250,000, imprisoned up to 20 years or both. S/he may also be subject to prosecution under other applicable Federal and State laws. S/he may also be barred from Food Stamps for an additional 18 months if ordered by a court.**
- **Any member of your household who intentionally breaks the rules may be ineligible to receive Food Stamps for one year for the first offense, two years for the second offense, and permanently for the third offense.**
- **If a court of law finds any household member guilty of using or receiving benefits in a transaction involving the sale of a controlled substance, you will not be eligible for benefits for two years for the first offense, and permanently for the second time.**
- **If a court of law finds you guilty of having used or received benefits in a transaction involving the sale of fire-arms, ammunition or explosives, you will be permanently ineligible to participate in the Program upon the first occasion of such violation.**
- **If you are found to have made a fraudulent statement or representation with respect to the identity or place of residence in order to receive multiple Food Stamp benefits simultaneously, you will be ineligible to participate in the Program for a period of 10 years.**
- **If a court of law finds you guilty of having trafficked benefits for an aggregate amount of \$500 or more, you will be permanently ineligible to participate in the Program upon the first occasion of such violation.**

The information you provide on the application will be subject to verification by Federal, State or local officials to determine if the information is factual; that if any information is incorrect, Food Stamp benefits may be denied and you may be subject to criminal prosecution for knowingly providing incorrect information.

Information available through the Income Eligibility and Verification System (IEVS) will be requested, used and may be verified through collateral contacts when discrepancies are found by the State, and that such information may affect the household's eligibility and level of benefits.

The collection of information on the application, including the SSN of each household member, is authorized under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (formerly the Food Stamp Act), as amended, 7 USC 2011-2036. The information will be used to determine whether your household is eligible or continues to be eligible to participate in the SNAP. We will verify this information through computer matching programs. This information will also be used to monitor compliance with program regulations and for program management. This information may be disclosed to other Federal and State agencies for official examination, and to law enforcement officials for the purpose of apprehending persons fleeing to avoid the law. If a SNAP claim arises against your household, the information on this application, including SSN's, may be referred to Federal and State agencies, as well as private claims collection agencies, for claims collection action.

Pursuant to Section 570.030, RSMo, the stealing of public assistance benefits is a Class C felony if the value of the benefits is \$500.00 or more (after 1/1/17 is a Class D felony and value is \$750.00 or more). Punishment includes imprisonment for up to seven years and a fine not to exceed \$5,000.00. If the value of the benefits is less than \$500.00, the crime is a Class A misdemeanor (after 1/1/17 less than \$750.00). Punishments and fines may increase for repeat offenders.

Pursuant to Section 578.377 (570.400 effective 1/1/17), RSMo, unlawful receipt of public assistance benefits or EBT cards, you understand that it is against the law to obtain or attempt to obtain Food Stamp benefits to which you are not entitled, or obtain, or attempt to obtain Food Stamp benefits in the amount greater than those to which you are entitled. YOU UNDERSTAND THAT ANY FALSE CLAIM, STATEMENT, OR CONCEALMENT OF ANY MATERIAL FACT WHATSOEVER, IN WHOLE OR PART, ON THIS FORM OR DURING THE INTERVIEW, MAY SUBJECT YOU TO CRIMINAL AND/OR CIVIL PROSECUTION. You will be asked to complete an interview with the Family Support Division to complete this application process. You will be required to provide proof of some of the information you provide on this application and/or in the interview. Your signature acknowledges that you agreed to the terms outlined in this application and during the interview.

WORK REGISTRATION

I understand and agree that to receive Food Stamps, certain members of the household need to register for work. This means that certain members of the household must: A) Register for work at time of application and recertification. B) Not quit a job of 30 or more hours/week without good cause. C) Not reduce work hours under 30 hours per week without good cause. D) Not refuse to accept a bona fide offer of suitable employment without good cause. Anyone who does not follow the work requirements may be disqualified from receiving Food Stamps. This form also acts as a work registration notice. You, along with other nonexempt household members, will be considered work registered and must comply with the requirements associated work registration once this form is signed.

WORK AND/OR TRAINING REQUIREMENT (ABAWD)

Individuals identified as Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD's) are not eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if the individual received Food Stamp benefits for three countable months during a three year period from January 2016 to December 2018. Countable months are months during which an individual receives Food Stamp benefits for the full benefit month while not fulfilling the work requirement by working and/or attending training 20 hours per week, averaged monthly for a total of at least 80 hours.

An ABAWD is 18-49 years old; has no children under age 18 in the Food Stamp household; is not disabled; is not pregnant; is not a full-time student; not caring for an ill or incapacitated household member; not receiving unemployment (in any state); and is not attending a drug or alcohol treatment program. The time limit (three months) applies to ABAWDs only and ABAWDs may regain eligibility by meeting the work/training requirement for at least 80 hours in the last 30 days.

READ THIS PAGE CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING.

When you sign, you are certifying you understand the statements on this application. You are certifying, under penalty of perjury, you understand the information that you provide on this form and during the interview must be true and accurate, including information concerning citizenship and immigration status. You understand that any expenses you do not report, and verify when requested, will not be used to determine your Food Stamp benefits.

You are authorizing the Director of Family Support Division or his/her appointee to verify your circumstances and statements via Federal, State or local officials to determine if the information you provided is factual.

Pursuant to Section 578.385 (570.408 effective 1/1/17), RSMo, under the penalty of perjury, you certify that you have given true, accurate, and complete statements to the best of your knowledge, for each household member for whom you are applying including the information concerning citizenship and alien status.

By signing this application on paper or electronically, you are giving us permission to deliver, or cause to be delivered phone calls to you regarding your case from an automated dialing system at the primary phone number you provided on page 1. You do not have to consent to this as part of your application. If you want to opt out of getting these calls, check here: ☐

↓ SIGN HERE:

Your signature:	Date:
Signature of witness (needed if you cannot sign your name):	Date

Need help?

- Call 855-FSD-INFO (**855-373-4636**) Monday through Friday starting at 7:30 AM
- Visit **<https://dss.mo.gov>** to find an office location and hours
- Relay Missouri **711**
- TTY users can call **800-735-2966**

If you are blind or visually impaired and would like information about rehabilitation services for the blind, please call **800-592-6004**.

Establishing paternity is not required for Food Stamp benefits. However, if you want assistance in establishing paternity, please contact the FSD Paternity Hotline at **855-454-8037**.