



Public Benefits in DC during Coronavirus

Need to Apply for SNAP (Food Stamps), TANF (Cash Assistance), or Medicaid or Alliance (Public Health Insurance)?

Apply through the DC Department of Human Services (DHS):

Use DHS's new smartphone app. Go to <https://dhs.dc.gov/dcaccess>, or search "DC Access" in the Apple or Google Play store.

Apply online at <https://dcbenefits.dhs.dc.gov/>, or https://enroll.dchealthlink.com/users/sign_up (to apply for Medicaid)

Call the DHS Call Center at (202) 727-5355 to ask for an application to be mailed to you, OR

Pick up or drop off an application at one of these Service Centers:

H Street Service Center: 645 H St., NE

Congress Heights Service Center: 4049 South Capitol St., SW

Taylor Street Service Center: 1207 Taylor St., NW

Note: The Anacostia and Fort Davis Service Centers are temporarily closed

EBT Cards are being mailed out.

Do You Have a Child in a DC Public School?

If your child qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch, you will likely receive Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) to get an additional amount of SNAP money for the 2020-2021 school year. DC is awaiting instructions from the federal government before they release this money.

If your child was not receiving free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program last year, but you think your child was eligible, contact your child's school to apply.

If you have not enrolled your child in school for the 2020-2021 academic year, make sure to enroll them. Children must be enrolled in school in order to qualify for P-EBT.

If you have not updated your home address with your child's school this year, make sure you do so. For families without EBT cards, new cards will be sent out to the address the school has on file.

Was your Medicaid or Alliance Managed Care Organization (MCO) recently changed? Do you want to change to a different MCO?

Many people that previously received "straight Medicaid" have now been placed in an MCO.

Many people previously assigned to one MCO were moved to a different MCO.

Call 1-800-620-7802 to request a transfer to a different MCO.

Due to Recertify for SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, or Alliance in DC?

SNAP recertifications are expected to resume in March, 2021. You can recertify on the DHS website or on the DC Access app, or you can drop recertification documents off at a service center.

You will be sent a notice in the mail when it is time for you to recertify. If you need to update your mailing address, call the DHS Call Center at (202) 727-5355.

Medicaid and Alliance have been extended through at least the end of May, 2021. There is no need to report any changes for these programs, or to recertify.

You do not need to recertify for TANF at this time.

For SNAP, there is no need to do a mid-certification report or interim contact during this time.

Questions?

Questions about worker's rights?

Call the Washington Lawyers Committee Workers' Rights Clinic (202-319-1000)

Questions about unemployment benefits?

Call the Washington Lawyers Committee Workers' Rights Clinic (202-319-1000) or the Legal Aid Society of DC (202-628-1161)

Other questions?

Call Bread for the City Legal Clinic at (202) 386-7616