

Restaurant Meals Program

For the Elderly, Disabled and Homeless

CalFresh Program

April 1, 2015



CalFresh for Restaurant Meals

Sacramento County's Program

The State approved CalFresh regulations that allowed elderly, disabled, and homeless individuals to use CalFresh benefits to buy prepared restaurant meals.

Restaurant Meals Program Facts

There are more than 7,000 elderly, disabled, or homeless people who are receiving CalFresh benefits in Sacramento County.

Many area restaurants have been approved by the Food and Nutrition Service (USDA) to participate in the Restaurant Meals Program.

Prior to ordering a meal from an approved restaurant, participants will have to show their EBT card identifying them as eligible participants in the program.

If you would like more information about this program, please contact the Department of Human Assistance.

For more information, go to www.dhawebsaccountry.net.

CLIENT BENEFITS

- You can use your CalFresh Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card to purchase meals at approved restaurants.
- You will continue to receive your monthly benefits as you do now. This program change will not affect your benefits in any way.
- If you are elderly and/or disabled, you may have difficulties with getting around, making it hard to buy and prepare your meals. Restaurant meals are an affordable and nutritious choice.
- If you are homeless, you may not have storage or cooking facilities, so prepared food increases your choices and may improve nutrition.
- If you are homeless and work, you often spend cash for meals during the workday, or when commuting. Because of work schedules, you may have less access to meal providers such as Loaves & Fishes, Union Gospel Mission, Meals on Wheels, and Salvation Army.

ELIGIBILITY

- If you are an elderly, disabled or homeless recipient of the CalFresh program, you qualify for this program.

PROCESS

- If you think you may be eligible, please contact your worker who can arrange for your EBT card to be encoded showing you are eligible for the program. (Caution: if you have an authorized representative they will also be able to use your card for a restaurant meal.)
- You will have to show your EBT card every time you visit an approved restaurant prior to ordering your meal so they can verify you are eligible.
- To identify an approved restaurant, look for the sign stating **EBT Cards Accepted Here.**

How to use your EBT card at restaurants

- Elderly, disabled, or homeless individuals may use their CalFresh EBT card to purchase prepared food from approved restaurants.
- Present your EBT card prior to ordering your meal so they can verify you are eligible.
- They will run your card through their Point of Sale device (ATM-like machines), verify eligibility, and then you may enjoy your meal.