

A young girl with dark, curly hair is smiling and eating a red apple. She is holding the apple with both hands and has a bite taken out of it. The background is a blurred green, suggesting an outdoor setting with foliage.

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

Nourishing Our Community



SECOND HARVEST
of SILICON VALLEY

Goals

1. Overview of Food Programs
2. Overview CalFresh
 - a. Basic CalFresh Eligibility
 - b. Dispelling Myths
 - c. Unhoused Applicants
3. Become an Outreach Partner



Who do we serve?

Anyone in need of food in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties



Working families trying to make ends meet in a high-cost-of-living area



Individuals working hard to afford the cost of living in this region



Seniors on a fixed income



College students juggling tuition and housing costs



Unhoused community members



Easy to Access

- Anyone who needs food is allowed to attend, regardless of age, family composition or zip code
 - We serve people who live and/or work in San Mateo or Santa Clara Counties
- You can attend as many food distributions as you need – you are not limited to just one
- You can attend whatever location(s) is most convenient for you
- We offer a variety of distribution styles to support your preferences and needs:
 - Drive-Thru and Farmers' Market
 - Home Delivery available for people who are physically unable to leave their home



Free food resources





Nutritious Groceries

450+ grocery sites throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, including more than 130 drive-thru sites

Of the food clients receive, our goal is to provide **50% fresh produce**; 25% is protein and dairy

A typical client receives **\$250 worth** of free groceries each month



What to Expect at Your First Food Distribution

- ✓ There are different ways we distribute food, but you can expect to receive a seasonal assortment of fresh produce, eggs, milk, meat and pantry staples
- ✓ Volunteers will register you and provide a Client ID card
 - ✓ **TIP:** You can take a picture to save the card on your phone
 - ✓ You can use this card at most Second Harvest Distributions
- ✓ You can pick up food for other families. Please register each family you pick up for







San Jose Conservation Corps School
Please Take Up To
10 Pounds of
Pinto Beans
per Household

SAN JOSE
CONSERVATION
CORPS SCHOOL

PINTO BEANS

Grocery Home Delivery

- Available to homebound people of any age that have a physical or mental disability and do not have someone to pick up for them at a distribution location
- Deliveries include fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, beans, rice and more
- Serving 5,300+ households twice a month





Prepared Meals

- Our partners offer ready-to-eat meals at **30+ locations** throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties
- For people who don't have access to cooking facilities or who can't prepare their own meals



Summer Meals

Free Summer Meals For All Kids 18 and Under!

All kids in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties can get free, healthy meals during the summer of 2023!

No documentation or registration required

Visit shfb.org/mealsforkids to find a summer meal provider



Assistance with CalFresh Applications



Where you can spend



A family of four can secure a maximum of **\$939/month in benefits**

Kids who benefit from CalFresh are **18% more likely to graduate** from high school than similar low-income students

CalFresh is also known as **EBT, SNAP or food stamps**

Select major retailers are allowing **online purchasing** (and free delivery with minimum order)





Learn nutritious ways to prepare food bank staples through fun cooking videos and easy-to-follow recipes!

The **Nutrition Center** provides:

- Recipes and cooking videos, often highlighting unfamiliar foods
- Nutrition tip handouts and presentations
- Information on food safety and expiration dates

<https://www.shfb.org/nutrition-center>



Simple Roasted Sweet Potatoes

40 | Easy | American |

Crispy on the outside and soft and sweet on the inside. Eat them as a side dish or add to your favorite rice bowl, tacos,...





Food Connection Hotline

We can connect you to free groceries and help you apply for CalFresh

- 18 bilingual staff – we speak English, Spanish, Chinese Vietnamese, and Tagalog. 3-way translation available for other languages.
- Most calls are answered 'live'

How to contact us:

- Phone: 1-800-984-3663, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm
- Fill out [form](#) to request a call

Self-Service tools:

- [Online food locator tool](#)
- [CalFresh online application](#)



Food Locator

You can use our [Food Locator](#) to find **free, nutritious** food in convenient locations.

Choose between fresh groceries or ready-to-eat meals and pick days/times that fit any schedule.

Each location includes a listing with important details about what to expect and bring to your first distribution.

Find Food

- Free Groceries
- Ready-To-Eat Meals
- Summer Meals For Kids

All Days All Times

Today Morning

Tomorrow Afternoon

Monday Evening

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Address, City, Zip, Facility Name

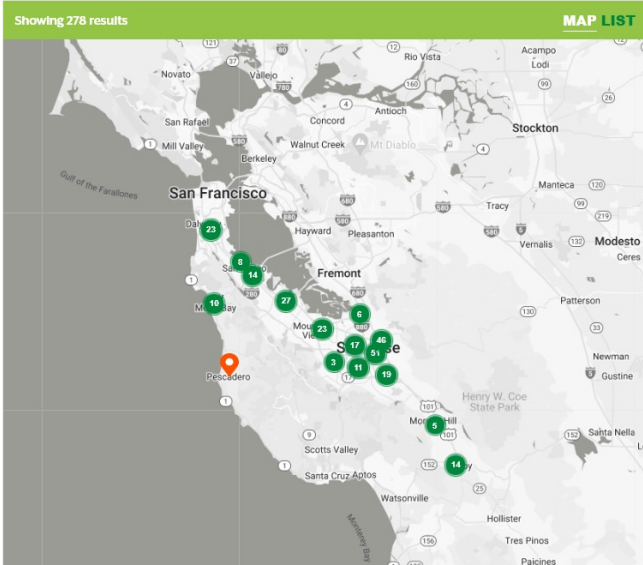
Use my current location

Drive Thru

No Documents Required

Showing 278 results

MAP LIST



Social Services Agency - CalWORKS

1879 Senter Road | San Jose, CA 95112

[VIEW MAP](#) [VIEW DIRECTIONS](#)

Schedules

Every Saturday

Free Groceries

Next 3 events

Saturday, July 23
11:45am - 1:45pm

Saturday, July 30
11:45am - 1:45pm

Saturday, August 6
11:45am - 1:45pm

[Show More](#)

Info for new clients

No pre-registration required. You will receive groceries that have been pre-packed for your convenience. Stay in your car & look out for volunteers. Put your car in park while our volunteers load the food in your trunk.

What to bring for your first visit

No documents needed

Distribution location

In the back parking lot by the loading docks.

Drive thru

Yes

How often can I get food at this location?

Weekly



CalFresh Overview



What is CalFresh?

CalFresh is a benefit program to help people buy healthy food at stores/supermarkets.



- **CalFresh = SNAP = EBT = Food Stamps**
 - It is the former **Food Stamps** program, funded by the USDA.
 - Also known as **SNAP** -(**S**upplemental **N**utrition **A**ssistance **P**rogram).
 - Benefits are given on a card through the **EBT**(Electronic Balance Transfer).
 - Provides food assistance to low-income households.



How to Use CalFresh

It is used like a debit card

- Card will have client's name and they can choose their own personal PIN number
- The receipt will show how much is left on card
- Any benefits left in the card will transfer to the next month



CalFresh Eligible Food

All food fit for human consumption:

- Fresh produce
- Canned items
- Dairy
- Cereal
- Meat, poultry, fish

However, some items are not allowed for purchase such as:

- Hot prepared food- Foods that are hot at the point of sale
- Medications
- Vitamin supplements
- Alcohol
- Household items
- Pet food
- Clothing



CalFresh Eligibility



Step 1: Identify CalFresh Household

The first step in trying to help someone access CalFresh benefits is to address who should apply together.



Household Composition



What is a household?

- A household can be a single individual, or a group of people that purchase and prepare food together.

We can find out who should be included in the application by asking:

“How many people do you regularly buy and prepare food with including yourself?”



Who should apply together?

People who have to apply together

- Children 22 yrs and under living with their parents
- Married couples living together

People who can apply separately

- Roommates/individuals, or families who live at the same address but buy and prepare food separately



Which immigration statuses are eligible?

Only those with **qualifying immigrant status are eligible**. BUT you can have ineligible members of the household and still qualify for CalFresh

At least **one** member of household:

Eligible statuses

- U.S. Citizens
- Lawful Permanent Residents
- Refugees / Asylees
- Immigrants receiving immigration relief through VAWA
- U or T Visa holders (pending application OK)

Ineligible statuses

- Undocumented/unauthorized individuals
- “Feeling felons”
- Immigrants with temporary visas



Step 2: Determining Income

Once we've determined who should apply together, the next step is calculating if the household meets the CalFresh income guidelines. We can ask the client:

“What is your monthly income before taxes?”



Income- Earned vs. Unearned Income

Earned income includes:

- Wages from a job
- Self-employment (including rental income)
- Military income

Unearned income includes:

- State Disability
- Child Support
- Unemployment Benefits
- Social Security and SSI
- Worker's Compensation
- Cash Aid
- CalWorks
- General Assistance
- Foster Care Payments
- Veteran's Benefits



Income to be Excluded

- Non-monetary benefits (in-kind)
- Loans
- Infrequent income, no more than \$30 per quarter
- Non reoccurring lump sum payments (i.e. tax returns, scholarships, college grants, etc.)
- Money earned by a child under 18 years of age who is going to school full-time

Remember!

Resources are NOT counted for CalFresh!



Income Eligibility Limits

2022-2023 CalFresh Income & Eligibility Limits

Effective October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023

Monthly Income Limits		
People in Household	Gross Monthly Income	Net Monthly Income
1	\$2,266	\$1,133
2	\$3,052	\$1,526
3	\$3,840	\$1,920
4	\$4,626	\$2,313
5	\$5,412	\$2,706
6	\$6,200	\$3,100
7	\$6,986	\$3,493
8	\$7,772	\$3,886
Each Additional Member	+\$788	+\$394



Step 3: Deductions

Just like doing taxes, the amount of CalFresh received by a household is based on a series of calculations and deductions. The county's computer system automatically determines the benefit amount based on the household's circumstances.

For certain deductions, no action is necessary from the client. For example, the "standard deduction" is based on the number of people in the household.

Knowing what deductions are available will help you prepare your clients to get the highest CalFresh benefit amount they are eligible to receive.



Expenses

After we find out income, we will find out if they pay any qualifying expenses and how much. Expenses such as:

- **Housing** (rent, mortgage, property taxes)
- **Utilities** (exact amount not needed)
- **Dependent Care** (the amount paid for care can be deducted from their income)
- **Child Support**
- **Medical expenses** (for seniors and applicants who have a disability)
- **Educational expenses** (for students)



Medical Deduction

Households in which someone is 60 years or older, or disabled can deduct out-of-pocket medical expenses. If your client can verify more than \$35.01 of medical expenses a month, they can get the standard medical deduction.

- Medical, vision and dental care
- Hospitalization or outpatient treatment, nursing care and nursing home care
- Insurance premiums and copays
- Prescription & over-the-counter medication, medical supplies
- Hearing aids, eye glasses, dentures and prosthetics
- Home health care
- Transportation to the doctor, pharmacy or any medical appointment
- Cost of service animals
- Cost of providing meals to an attendant



Benefit Amounts

Maximum Monthly Allotment

People in Household	Maximum CalFresh Allotment
1	\$281
2	\$516
3	\$740
4	\$939
5	\$1,116
6	\$1,339
7	\$1,480
8	\$1,691
Each Additional Member	+\$211

* Benefit amounts may vary depending on calculation of income and housing expenses.



Putting it all Together for the Prescreen

In speaking to clients, we might say things like...

WHAT: “CalFresh is a program that that allows you to go to most grocery stores to buy the food you need. Would it be okay if I asked you a few questions to see if you might be eligible?”

WHO: “How many people do you regularly buy and prepare food with including yourself?”

HOW MUCH: “What is your monthly income before taxes?”

DEDECTIONS: “What do you pay for housing/rent, childcare, child support?”



Overview of Application Process

Step By Step Process:

1. Outreach for Calfresh
2. Prescreening & Verifications Compiled
3. Application Submission
4. County Processes and contacts client
5. Approval or denial of benefits within 30 days



Myths and Fears



Myths and Fears

Do I have to pay CalFresh back?

- No, you will not have to pay any money back unless you are overpaid.

Do CalFresh benefits roll over each month?

- Yes, any balance remaining on your Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card will roll over to the following month. Your benefits won't be adjusted or reduced because you aren't using the full amount every month.

Do you have to pay taxes on CalFresh?

- No, you do not need to report CalFresh on your tax return.

Does CalFresh count as income?

- No, CalFresh allotments made to each household are not counted as taxable income.

Do I need to show proof of income when applying for CalFresh?

- Earned and unearned income must be reported. If you need help getting documentation, you should discuss your needs with the CalFresh case worker during the interview.

Who can get CalFresh?

- You can get CalFresh even if you get money from a job, disability, unemployment, Social Security, CalWORKs, General Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or retirement.

Can I get CalFresh if I don't have kids?

- Yes, people who do not have children can get CalFresh.



Myths and Fears

Can I get CalFresh as a college student?

- Yes, many college students can get CalFresh if they meet student requirements.

Can I get CalFresh if I am not a legal resident or citizen?

- To qualify, at least one household member must be a legal resident or citizen, even if that person is a child. Sponsored immigrants may be eligible.

Can I get CalFresh if I own my home or a car?

- Yes, you can own your home or a car and have savings and still be eligible.

Will CalFresh hurt my children's future?

- No, your children will not be negatively impacted if you receive CalFresh.
- Your children will not have to serve in the military if you receive CalFresh.
- Your children will not have to pay back your CalFresh benefits at any time.
- Your children will not be taken away from you.

Can I reapply for CalFresh if I was denied?

- Yes, even if you have applied for CalFresh before and were denied, you should try again. New laws have passed to make it easier.

Does CalFresh take my fingerprints?

- No, fingerprinting is no longer required to get CalFresh.



Will it Hurt My Chances to Becoming a Citizen?

- Short answer: No.
- Long answer: Also no.

Resources:

Online Public Charge Screening Tool:

<https://pifcoalition.org/resource/online-public-charge-screening-tool>

Joint Letter on Public Charge from Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/fns-uscis-joint-letter-2022.pdf>



Unhoused Applicants



Who is an Unhoused Applicant

An individual is experience homelessness if the person:

- Has no fixed, regular place you sleep at night; or
- Lives in a shelter, an armory, or a welfare hotel: or
- Lives in a half-way house; or
- Is living for less than 90 days in someone else's home; or
- Lives somewhere that people do not usually live, such as a doorway, a lobby, a bus station, a hallway, a car, or a subway.



People experience homelessness

- Can get CalFresh even if they live in a shelter and get free meals there.
- Do not have to have any place to cook or store food to get CalFresh
- Are more likely to be eligible for CalFresh Expedited Service (ES).



Expedite Service – ES

Individuals may be eligible for Emergency or “Expedited” CalFresh if they meet one of the following circumstances:

- The household has less than \$150 in gross monthly income and has \$100 or less in “liquid resources.”

or

- The household’s monthly housing costs (rent or mortgage, and the standard utility allowance) for the month are more than the sum of its liquid resources and gross income for the month
- The household is made up of migrant farm workers who do not currently have and/or are not expecting work for the month



Some Special Rights

- The CalFresh office cannot force unhoused clients to produce an address. Clients can still receive benefits even if there is no fixed address.
 - Can use county address to receive NOA's
- No Semi-Annual Reports: people experience homelessness do not have to file a semi-annual SAR 7 Eligibility Status Report.” But to get this exception, the entire household must be unhoused.



Accommodations

- People who are unhoused may use their CalFresh benefits at certain restaurants and grocery stores to buy prepared meals through the Restaurant Meals Program
- If an individual does not have an ID, the eligibility worker will assist the individual to obtain adequate documentation/identification.
 - The CalFresh eligibility worker can also verify a person's identity by calling someone, such as a shelter worker or an employer, who can confirm their identity
 - Voter's registration may be the easiest acceptable ID to secure



Unhoused Youth

- Unhoused youth who are not living with their parents or under the control of an adult can get CalFresh benefits on their own
- The income of their parents must not be used in calculating eligibility



Next Steps



Collateral

• Flyers

- Food Connection Flyers ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Multilingual](#))
- CalFresh Flyer ([Multilingual](#))

• Videos

- ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Chinese](#))

SECOND HARVEST of SILICON VALLEY

Free, healthy food when you need it.
Living here is expensive. Getting healthy food doesn't have to be.

Comida saludable gratis cuando la necesite.
Es caro vivir aquí. Comer saludable no tiene por qué serlo.

Call 1-800-984-3663
Weekdays, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Llame al 1-800-984-3663
Entre semana, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

You can also:
Learn more at shfb.org/getfood
Text "FOOD" to 876-876* or Scan the QR code to request a call.

También puede:
Aprende más en shfb.org/comida
Envíe "COMIDA" al 876-876* o Escanee el código QR para solicitar una llamada.

Contact Second Harvest of Silicon Valley today. Our friendly staff speak English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese and Tagalog. Second Harvest is not a government agency.

Comuníquese con el banco de comida Second Harvest de Silicon Valley. Nuestros amables empleados hablan Español, Inglés, Vietnamita, Chino y Tagalog. Second Harvest no es una agencia del gobierno.

Free, fresh produce and groceries
Frutas, verduras, y más comestibles gratuitos

Prepared meals
Comida preparada

School and summer meals for kids
Comidas para niños en verano y en las escuelas

CalFresh (EBT)
CalFresh (EBT)

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

¿Necesita ayuda para comprar alimentos?

Usted puede calificar para CalFresh, una tarjeta EBT gratuita que puede usar para comprar alimentos, en la mayoría de las tiendas y ordenar en línea en tiendas minoristas.

¿Quiere saber si califica?

Llame al 1-800-984-3663, de lunes a viernes, de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. o escanee el código QR para solicitar una llamada

Hablamos Español, Inglés, Vietnamita, Cantonés, Mandarín y Tagalo.

Second Harvest también puede conectarle con otros programas de alimentos en su comunidad. ¡Llámenos!

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley no es una agencia de gobierno.

Need help buying groceries?

You might qualify for CalFresh, a free EBT card you can use to buy food at most stores and select online retailers.

Want to find out if you qualify?

Call us at 1-800-984-3663, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or scan the QR code to request a call.

We speak English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin and Tagalog.

Second Harvest can also connect you to other food programs in your community. **Call us!**

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley is not a government agency.

CalFresh SECOND HARVEST of SILICON VALLEY



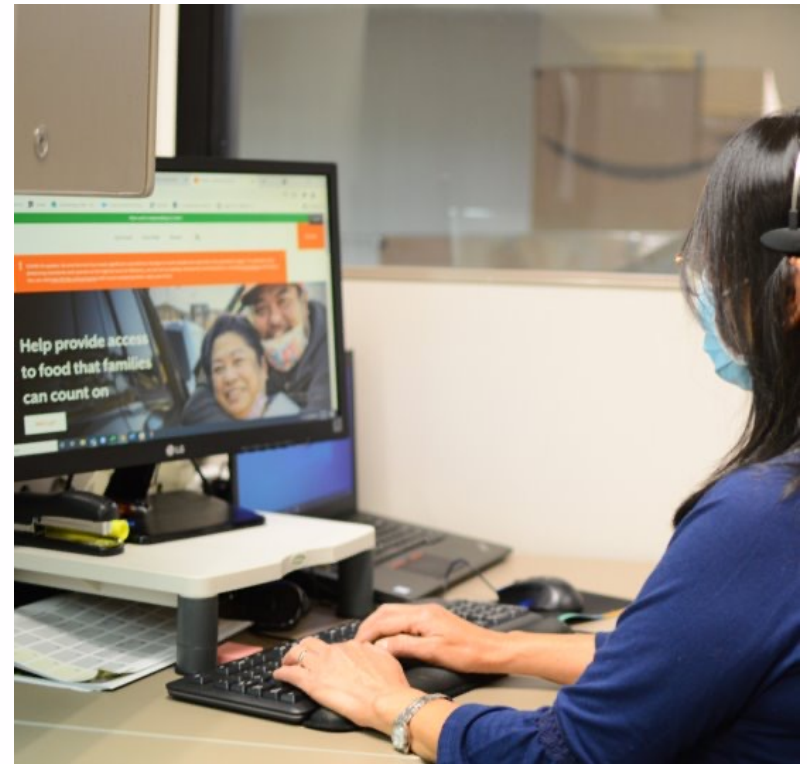
Join the Outreach Partner Engagement Network (OPEN)!

- Help Second Harvest expand our reach in the communities you serve
- Benefits include:
 - Specialized training to help connect your clients to CalFresh or free groceries
 - Access to robust and diverse partner network
 - Outreach materials and support
 - On-site CalFresh application assistance
 - Assistance with outreach strategies and campaigns



How do clients benefit from OPEN?

- Free Grocery program referrals
- CalFresh application assistance
- CalFresh post-application support
 - Submitting verification documents
 - Communicating with County
- Information and referrals to other support services



How to become an OPEN Partner

Fill out an Outreach Partner Inquiry Form:

[Inquiry Form](#)

Please share with other team(s) or dept(s) within your org that you think may be interested



Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

Contact me

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**Thank
You!**