

Do I qualify for Basic Food Benefits?

Household Size	Monthly Income Limit
1	\$2,265
2	\$3,052
3	\$3,839
4	\$4,625
5	\$5,412
6	\$6,199

Basic Food for Students:

- **Students who are age 18-49, able to work, and enrolled in an institution of higher education 1/2 time or more must meet at least ONE condition to qualify for Basic Food benefits:**
 - Have paid employment and work an average of 20 hrs/wk
 - Participate in a state or federal work study or BFET program
 - Care for a child under age 6, or under age 11 for students who lack adequate child care to attend school and work
 - Attend college full-time as a single parent to a child under age 12
- **Student eligibility restrictions do not apply for:**
 - Students enrolled in ESL, High School Completion or GED courses. These are not considered higher education.
 - Students who are suspended, expelled, drop out, graduate, or do not intend to register for the next term.

How much can I receive?

Household Size	Maximum Benefit
1	\$250
2	\$459
3	\$658
4	\$835
5	\$992
6	\$1,190

You don't have to be a U.S. Citizen to get Food Benefits

Immigrants who meet specific program rules under the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Program may be eligible for Food Benefits. Undocumented immigrants, tourists, and other non-immigrants are not eligible.

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BASIC FOOD GUIDE

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How to apply for Basic Food benefits





1. Complete an application in one of the following ways:

-  **By phone or in-person with Opportunity Council's Community Resource Center**
Call 360-734-5121, or visit 1111 Cornwall Ave.
Monday through Friday, 9am - 4pm
-  **Online at WashingtonConnection.org**
-  **By phone or in-person with DSHS**
Call 1-877-501-2233, or visit 4101 Meridian St.
Monday through Friday, 8am - 3pm
Be prepared for long wait times for phone & in-person services






2. Complete an interview with DSHS:

Contact DSHS at 1-877-501- 2233, or visit the Bellingham Community Services Office at 4101 Meridian St. Monday through Friday, 8am -3pm.

3. Provide documentation:

-  Bring documents to 4101 Meridian St.
-  Mail to PO Box 11699, Tacoma, WA 98411
-  Fax to 1-888-338-7410
-  Set up email access by calling 1-877-501-2233

Documentation that may be required:

-  **Proof of Identity**
 - Driver's License/State ID
 - Work or School ID Card
 - Health ID Card
 - Birth Certificate
 - U.S. Passport
-  **Citizenship or Alien Status**
 - Social Security Numbers
 - Documentation Status Letter
-  **Earned Income**
 - Pay Stubs (past 3-6 months)
 - Employer Statement
 - Income Tax Forms
 - Self-employment Bookkeeping Records (past 12 months)
-  **Un-earned Income**
 - Social Security Award Letter
 - Child Support Agreement
 - Unemployment Stubs
 - Bank Statement with Deposits
 - Income Tax Forms
-  **Residency & Expenses**
 - Lease/Mortgage Agreement
 - Statement of Shared Living Arrangement
 - Utility Bills
 - Medical Bills (senior/disabled only)

4. Receive EBT Card:

Your card will be mailed to you. If you do not have an address, you can pick up your card at DSHS.

Every month, food benefits will be added to your card.

An EBT Card works similarly to a debit card. Benefits can be used to purchase food at most grocery stores and farmers' markets, as well as to purchase groceries for delivery through Amazon and Walmart.

5. Receive Other Benefits:

Basic Food Enrollment may also qualify you for other programs:

- Free & Reduced School Lunch
- Head-Start & Early Head-Start
- WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
- Free Lifeline Wireless service
- Reduced price internet
- Employment support services
- Amazon Prime membership discount
- Whatcom Museum membership discount
- Woodland Park Zoo discount

For more information, call the CRC:
360-734-5121 option 3