

SNAP Gap FAQs

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When and where do these events occur?

These events occur at the Manhattan Public Library on the second Thursday of the month from 10 am - 12 pm and on the fourth Thursday of the month from 4 - 6 pm.

Do I need an appointment to receive assistance with my SNAP application?

No. At this time we are not requiring appointments.

Does it cost anything to receive help with the SNAP application?

No. It does not cost anything to receive help with the SNAP application or to submit the SNAP application.

How do I know if I am eligible for SNAP?

SNAP eligibility is determined in part by a monthly income per household less than a certain amount. The amount varies by household size and those guidelines can be found here: https://content.dcf.ks.gov/EES/KEESM/Appendix/F-2_FA_Standards.pdf. Additionally, applicants need to be a citizen or legal non-citizen to receive benefits. In some cases, additional restrictions apply.

What happens at a SNAP Gap sign-up event?

During these events, individuals interested in signing up for the Kansas SNAP program receive free assistance completing the SNAP application.

Is assistance available in a language other than English?

No. At this time we are only able to offer assistance in English.

Is it okay if I bring my child(ren) to this event?

Yes. Everyone is welcome at the Manhattan Public Library.

What do I need to bring?

- An ID (or copy of ID) for all members of the household who are 18 and older
- Paperwork related to your current employment status
 - If currently employed: bring your most recent paystub
 - If newly employed: bring an employer statement of when you started, hours worked per pay period, pay rate, how often you are paid, day of week paid, and date of the first check. Include tips and commission if applicable.
 - If terminated employment: bring an employer statement of the date employment ended, the date and amount of the last check
 - If self-employed: bring your most recent tax return and 3 months of the most recent business ledgers
 - If newly self-employed: bring a signed statement of expected income
- Record of child support income voluntarily received in the past 3 months
- Record of monetary gifts, such as a statement from the person gifting money, including the amount and how often
- Record of other income, such as social security, workers compensation, unemployment, and retirement
- Paperwork reflecting other resources, such as annuities, stocks, bonds, trusts, and real estate other than the home where you reside

Am I guaranteed to receive benefits?

No. Following the successful completion of a SNAP application, the application is reviewed by our local DCF agency to confirm eligibility. Applicants are required to complete an interview with DCF before benefits are granted.

What is DCF?

DCF stands for Department of Children and Families. This organization is responsible for reviewing SNAP applications and granting SNAP benefits.

What happens during an interview with DCF?

The interview may happen via phone or in-person at the DCF office. The interviewer will ask you to confirm the information listed on your application. If there were blanks on your application, the interviewer might ask you to provide additional information related to the blanks.

How much money will I receive?

Individuals receive SNAP benefits on a monthly basis. The amount received varies based on household size and income. In 2019, the average SNAP benefit for a household of 2 was \$229.

What can I buy with SNAP?

Many grocery stores, convenience stores, dollar stores, and the Downtown Farmer's Market accept SNAP benefits. Benefits can be used to purchase most food items, including snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages. It can also be used to purchase seeds or food-producing plants. Food that is hot at the point-of-sale, supplements, and alcoholic beverages may not be purchased with SNAP benefits.

When will I receive benefits?

It takes about 90 days to receive benefits after submitting an application in Riley county.

Where can I go if I need food now?

Visit <https://nourishtogether.org/agency-category/i-need-food/> for a list of food resources in Riley County and the City of Manhattan.

Is SNAP the same as food stamps?

Yes. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) used to be called food stamps.

Can I receive help sooner/at a different time than the scheduled dates?

Yes. The SNAP Assistance team at Harvesters is available Monday through Friday to help individuals determine eligibility for SNAP and complete SNAP applications. Help can be accessed through a phone call, text, or by filling out an online form. Contact information for Harvesters's SNAP assistance can be found here:

<https://www.harvesters.org/get-food-assistance/snap-assistance>.

Can I do this on my own?

Yes. Individuals can complete their own SNAP applications using the online portal at <https://cssp.kees.ks.gov/apspspp/sppNonMed.portal> or by visiting the local DCF office at 2709 Amherst Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502.

What is SNAP?

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is a federally-funded program that provides qualifying low-income families with monthly benefits in the form of a debit card that can be used to purchase food for home use. Benefits may also be used to purchase seeds or plants for growing food at home.

What is the SNAP Gap?

The SNAP Gap is the difference between individuals eligible for SNAP and those who receive SNAP benefits. In Riley county, it is estimated that 23% of individuals who are eligible for SNAP do not receive benefits.

Who is organizing this event?

This program is an initiative of the Riley County & City of Manhattan Food & Farm Council.

How can I become a volunteer for this event?

Learn more about becoming a volunteer with a Riley County & City of Manhattan Food & Farm Council by visiting <https://nourishtogether.org/agency-category/i-want-to-volunteer/>.