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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Releases Updated Information for New Yorkers Concerned About Benefits Amid Ongoing Federal Shutdown

While SNAP Benefits for November Could Be Delayed, New Yorkers Should Continue to Apply for Benefits as Usual

(NEW YORK, NY) — **The Legal Aid Society** today released updated information for New Yorkers concerned about their benefits amid the ongoing federal government shutdown to help clear up misinformation and answer potential questions.

The Trump Administration has announced that if the Government Shutdown continues after October 31, 2025, November Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits will not be issued. However, SNAP benefits already issued are not expiring or disappearing on November 1. New Yorkers do not need to rush to spend the funds currently available on their EBT cards. Any remaining SNAP balance will remain accessible and usable in November, even if the federal shutdown persists.

According to the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), SNAP households will receive a text message informing them about the status of November SNAP benefits. New Yorkers can also check the [OTDA website](#) and [ACCESS HRA](#).

The Legal Aid Society also confirmed that November benefits for other key programs remain unaffected, including:

- Cash Assistance
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Social Security
- Housing subsidies such as FHEPS, CityFHEPS, and Section 8

“While the uncertainty surrounding federal funding is understandably concerning, it’s important for New Yorkers to know that most essential benefit programs are still operating and that SNAP funds already distributed will not be lost,” said **Adriene Holder, Chief Attorney of the Civil Practice at The Legal Aid Society**. “People who need assistance should continue to apply and recertify — do not wait. Even if SNAP payments are delayed, benefits can be issued retroactively once federal funding resumes.”

The Legal Aid Society urges anyone in need of food or financial assistance to continue submitting benefit applications through normal channels.

Additional resources:

- The Food Bank NYC: <https://www.foodbanknyc.org/find-food/#find-food-map>
- List of NYC Food Pantries: <https://finder.nyc.gov/foodhelp/locations>
- NYC.gov: [Resources for Impacted SNAP Recipients](#)
- State Resources: [If You've Been Impacted by Federal Cuts](#)
- Call 311 for information on food pantries and SNAP updates.

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit organization that exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For nearly 150 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities.

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