

**Massachusetts Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program
(SNAP)**
(Formerly Food Stamps)



Your SNAP Benefits Are Going Up!

Why are my benefits going up?

- There is a new law called the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. You might have heard it called the **Economic Stimulus Package**.
- Because of the law, you get more Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

How can I use the extra benefits?

- Use your extra benefits to **buy food** at your grocery store.

When will I receive the extra benefits?

- You will receive the extra benefits starting in **April 2009**.
- The extra benefits will be part of your monthly allotment and **added automatically** to your EBT card. **You do not have to contact your case manager.**

How much extra will I receive?

- **Look at the table** below to see how much more you may receive each month. For example, if there are 3 people in your household and right now you receive \$250 each month, then in April you would get \$313 each month (\$250 + \$63).
- Remember any changes that occur in your case may affect your benefit amount.

Number of People in Your Household	Increase Up To
1	+ \$24
2	+ \$44
3	+ \$63
4	+ \$80
5	+ \$95
6	+ \$114
7	+ \$126
8	+ \$144
Each extra person	+ \$18

Note: The minimum benefit will be increased from \$14 to \$16. Some households with 1 or 2 people who currently receive the minimum benefit will increase to \$16 a month. Others may receive more, depending on your household income.

- To find out how much money is in your account, call 1-800-997-2555 for your balance.

Will there be a cost-of-living adjustment in October?

- Because of this adjustment no cost-of-living adjustments are expected in the near future. You will receive notification of the next cost-of-living adjustment when it occurs.

