Federal Response Forward Together Oregon Partner Webinar

November 18, 2025











Housekeeping

- **CART Captions**: click on the box that says "CC" or use the live captioning link provided in the chat.
- American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation is available.
- Somali, Amharic and Spanish language interpretation is available.

• Q&A box: click on "Q&A" to submit questions.





Agenda

- Director of the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement
- Federal Government Shutdown Update
- Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Eligibility Updates
- Marketplace Updates
- Questions and Answers
- Resources





Welcome

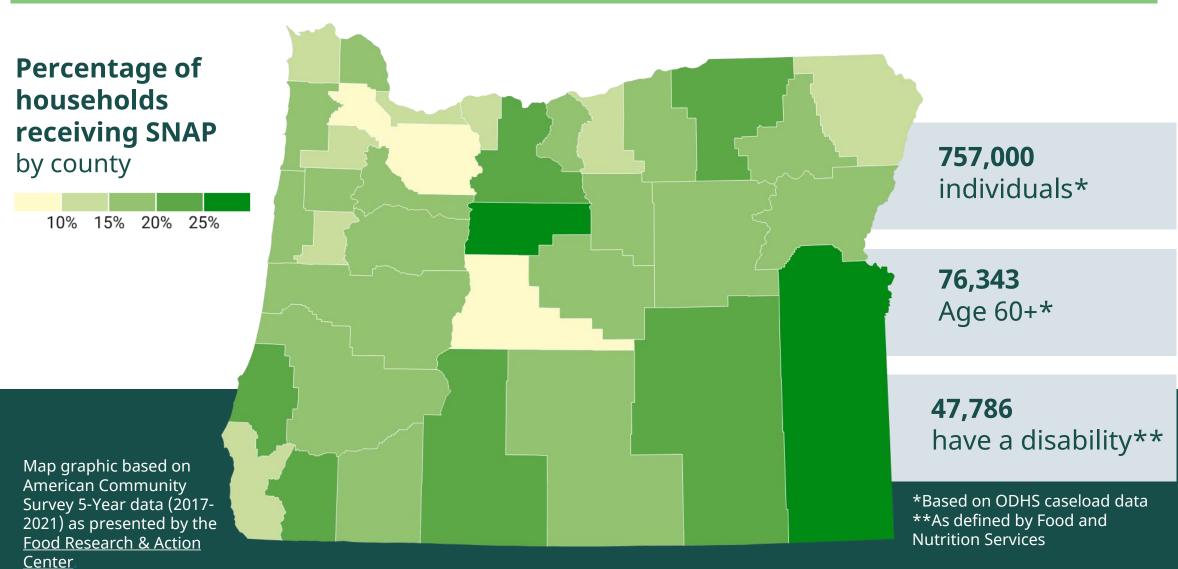
Jessica Ventura, Director

Office of Immigrant & Refugee Advancement
Oregon Department of Human Services





1 in 6 Oregonians participate in SNAP



SNAP monthly snapshot

\$313

Average benefit per household

\$183

Average benefit per person

210k+

Participating children

130k+

Participating adults 65+



Source:
Oregon
Department of
Human
Services
caseload data,
March 2025.

Oregon SNAP operating normally

- 100% of November's benefits issued to SNAP recipients by the morning of Nov. 7.
- Those approved for SNAP between Nov. 7-13 received benefits on Nov. 14.
- December SNAP will go out on the regular schedule
- SNAP funded through September 30, 2026



Hunger emergency continues

Governor confirmed on Nov. 7 that the **emergency declaration remains in place**

ODHS **incident management team** (IMT) coordinating statewide response

- \$5M to **Oregon Food Bank** network
- \$1M distributed equally across Nine Federally Recognized Tribes
- Statewide food donation campaign



Protecting EBT Cards and Benefits

Electronic theft of benefits is on the rise nationwide

Stolen SNAP benefits **can't** be replaced. TANF benefits **can** be replaced.

Safety tips for cardholders and downloadable resources for partners in many languages at www.oregon.gov/odhs

Act now to protect your Oregon EBT card and benefits



Be on the alert. Scammers are stealing food and cash benefits from EBT cards. Take charge in protecting your benefits.

- Learn how to keep your card and benefits safe
- Know what to do if your card or benefits are stolen
- Find out if you qualify for replacement benefits



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Protect your card at www.ebtedge.com

If your benefits are stolen, report it right away. Cancel your card and order a new one.

Weekdays 855-328-6715 Weekends 888-997-4447

You can get this form in other languages, large print, braille, or a format you prefer free of charge. Call the ONE Customer Service Center at 1-800-699-9075. We also accept relay calls.

Federal Government Shutdown - WIC

- Oregon's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program continued to provide services and benefits without interruption during the shutdown.
- The Continuing Resolution adopted by Congress and signed by the President includes full funding for WIC through Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026.





Lawfully present immigrant provisions

Effective Date	Description	Population Impact
July 4, 2025	Non-citizen SNAP eligibility : Limits eligibility to US citizens or nationals, Lawful Permanent Residents, certain Cuban and Haitian entrants, and Compact of Free Association (COFA) citizens.	~3,000 lawfully present individuals, including refugees, asylees and other conditionally allowed individuals, will lose benefits.

SNAP eligibility limitations

Eligible Groups	Eligibility Timing
 Non-citizen U.S. nationals Cuban and Haitian entrants Compacts of Free Association (COFA) citizens 	Eligible immediately, with no waiting period, as long as they meet all other SNAP financial and non-financial eligibility requirements.
Lawful permanent residents (LPR), also known as Green Card holders	Eligible after a 5-year waiting period, as long as they meet all other SNAP financial and non-financial eligibility requirements. LPRs may still be eligible for SNAP without a waiting period if they meet one or more of the following conditions: • Are under 18 years old • Have 40 qualifying work quarters • Are blind or disabled • Were lawfully residing in the U.S. and 65 or older on August 22, 1996 • Have a U.S. military connection • Are admitted to the United States as an Amerasian immigrant • Are an American Indian born abroad
Source: USDA FNS at https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/obbb-alien-eligibility	 Certain Hmong or Highland Laotian tribal members

Able-bodied adults without dependents work rules

Effective Estimated population Description impact date **Changes able-bodied adults without dependents** (ABAWD) age range to 18 through 64 (previously 18 through 54) ~310,000 adults **Changes dependent child exception** to those under the age of 14 (previously 18). will need to be reviewed for July 4, 2025 ABAWD work requirements or exceptions. Limits ABAWD waivers to only be permissible if an area (city, county, Tribal Land, etc.) has an unemployment rate above 10%. Removed option to request waivers based on

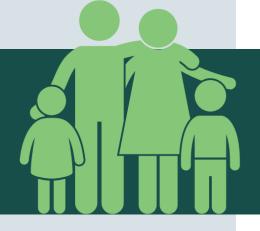
lack of sufficient jobs.

What does it mean?

A 63-year-old will be limited to 3 SNAP months in 3 years if they must meet work rules and don't.

Residents of frontier counties must work 80 hours/month or be limited to 3 SNAP months in 3 years.

People and families who have SNAP will lose SNAP or get fewer benefits.



Hunger in Oregon will increase.

SNAP work rule impacts for older adults and people with disabilities

SNAP work-requirement exemptions:

- People ages 55-64 added to who must meet 80 hour per month work rules to get more than 3 months of SNAP
- Removed exemptions for veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and former foster youth
- People with a disability remain exempt

Work rules will not impact individuals with I/DD, behavioral health or physical disability

 Will not apply to individuals receiving long-term services and supports.

Food insecurity among older adults

Nearly **1 in 7 seniors** in Oregon **experiences food insecurity**. (Oregon Food Bank)

Disproportionate impact: Communities of color, low-income seniors, individuals with disabilities and immigrants.

Food-insecure older adults are more likely to have poor/fair health and chronic health conditions.

Adults 60+ have the lowest SNAP participation rate in Oregon. (Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon)

Consumer Price Index:

All food increased 0.4% from July 2025 to August 2025, higher than any other category.

Support for individuals receiving Medicaid long term services and supports

Case managers help individuals address food related needs through the person-centered service planning

In-home consumers can have their caregivers take them to food banks or go to the food bank for them Individuals can use their community transportation benefits to go to food banks and other community supports

In-home consumers can receive up to two Medicaid-funded home delivered meals every day

Individuals with lifethreatening conditions may be able to receive payments from ODHS for special diets

Additional in-home hours may be an option for some

Individuals in licensed care settings receive 3 meals plus snacks daily

Food security services: Older Americans Act (OAA)

APD receives federal funding for OAA programs.

- Supports people aged 60+
- Funds 16 Area Agencies on Aging
- Nutrition services: Home-delivered meals and congregate meal sites

Fiscal Year 2024-25

1.97M

Home-delivered meals (HDM)

13,512

HDM consumers

562k+

Congregate meals

14,122

Congregate consumers

Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace

The Marketplace empowers Oregonians to improve their lives through local support, education, and access to affordable, high-quality health coverage.

We invite all partners to join our monthly Marketplace Connections meeting.

Find information and register at: <u>orhim.info/connection</u>

Senate Bill 972 (2023) requires OHA to transition the Marketplace from a state-based marketplace using the federal platform (SBM-FP) to a state-based marketplace (SBM) in time for open enrollment for plan year 2027 (by Nov. 1, 2026).

Learn more at: orhim.info/sbmtransition





Marketplace Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment is Nov. 1, 2025 to Jan. 15, 2026.

- People who enroll between Nov. 1 and Dec. 15, 2025 will have coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2026.
- People who enroll between Dec. 15, 2025 and Jan. 15, 2026 will have coverage beginning Feb. 1, 2026.
- Use the Window Shopping tool (OregonHealthCare.gov/WindowShop) to preview financial assistance before completing a full application.
- Enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace at <u>HealthCare.gov</u>





Marketplace Enhanced Premium Tax Credits

The temporary increase in financial help (called "enhanced premium tax credits" [EPTCs]) end this year unless Congress extends it.



That means many people will see a smaller subsidy and a higher monthly premium, even if their income and plan stay the same.



It's especially important this year that clients log in, update their application, and compare plans—they might find a new plan that fits their budget better.



Learn more about the ending EPTCs at orhim.info/eptcexpiration





Questions and Answers





Resources

- ODHS web page
- OHA web page
- Email <u>feedback@odhsoha.oregon.gov</u> to submit questions
- WIC web page
- Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement web page
- New 2026 Forward Together Oregon partner webinar series
 - Register here: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_--
 Q6HyPQoR76PxkMFSXcQ2Q#/registration





Resources for finding food

- Visit ODHS' <u>free food events</u> listings.
- Visit ODHS' food resource webpage at needfood.oregon.gov









