

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding Partner/Provider Webinar

Hosted by: Oregon Department of Human Services
(ODHS) & Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

February 14, 2023



Zoom Webinar Tips

All attendees:



Use the Q&A function to submit your questions

- We will spend the last 10 minutes of the webinar answering questions
- We will follow up on any questions we are not able to address
- If you would prefer to ask your question verbally, please ask to be unmuted in the Q&A box



This webinar is being recorded

- It will be shared on our COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Unwinding webpage at oregon.gov/covid-phe-partners following the conclusion of the presentation

Language & Disability Access

- A live Spanish webinar will be held February 23, 2023 at 10 a.m. PST. It has the same material that will be presented today.
 - For live captioning, please click on the “cc” button located at the bottom of your screen
 - For real time interpretation to ASL, please see the pinned video on your screen
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Agenda

COVID-19 Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE)
unwinding timeline and updates

Changes coming to the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 2023

Questions

Resources for Community Partners

Partner Webinar Survey Results

Overview: A survey was conducted with people who attended one or more 2022 webinars to gather partner input on future topics, how often to hold webinars, and ensure we are meeting accessibility needs. 108 partners responded.

- A majority prefer **monthly webinars**
- Most attended 2 or more webinars
- 96% said we are **meeting their accessibility needs**
- 91% said the webinars have **been a valuable resource** for me/my organization
- **Medical programs** and **communication and outreach to community partners** are the most popular areas of interest



COVID-19 Federal PHE Unwinding Timeline and Updates

Through the Public Health Emergency (PHE), people have stayed covered on Medicaid

Family First Coronavirus Response Act:

1. Allowed individuals to stay on OHP during the federal public health emergency.
2. Made it easier for individuals to enroll.

What we know now:



President Biden recently announced that the Federal COVID-19 PHE will **end May 11, 2023.**



Starting April 1, Oregon must begin medical renewals for more than 1.4 million individuals who are on OHP. Oregon **will have 14 months to complete renewals.**

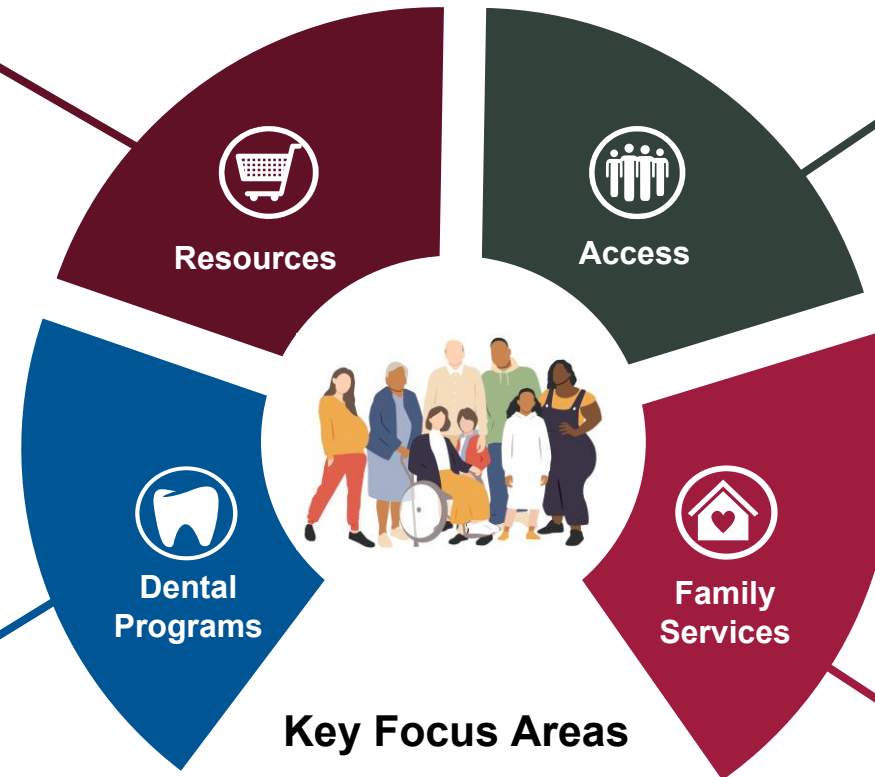
Significant Changes Coming to Other Programs

Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)

- End of SNAP Emergency Allotments
- Able bodied adults without dependents will have time limits again

Dental Coverage

- New Veteran Dental coverage



Key Focus Areas

Eligibility and Reporting

- People who turned 65 during the pandemic need to transition from OHP to Medicare to avoid penalty
- Changes to capture demographic information (e.g., race, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity expression)
- Federal reporting requirements

Childcare

- Updates to child-care eligibility (HB3073)

The Goal: Preserve Benefits

1

Ensure all people and families eligible for benefits offered through the ONE system receive and continue to receive services in a timely manner without interruption

2

Give those no longer eligible for benefits clear direction and coordination of additional resources

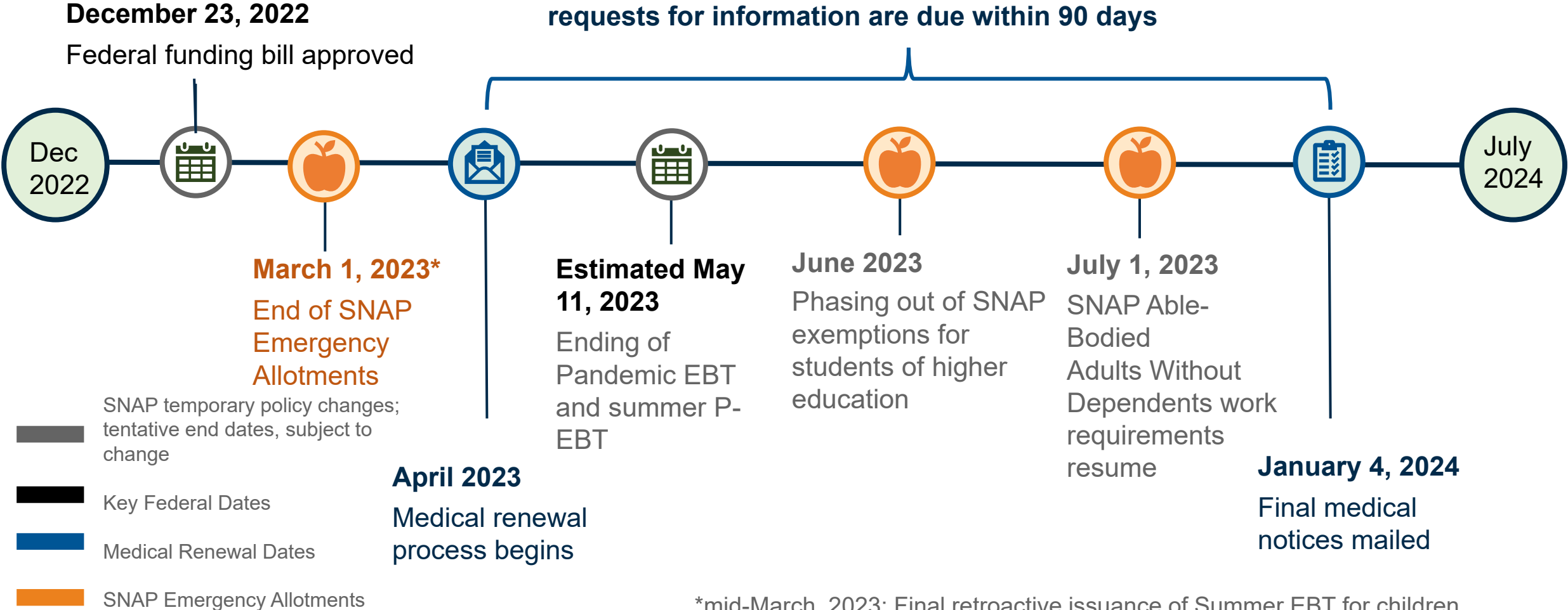
3

Give those who assist people receiving benefits clear information about how they can help



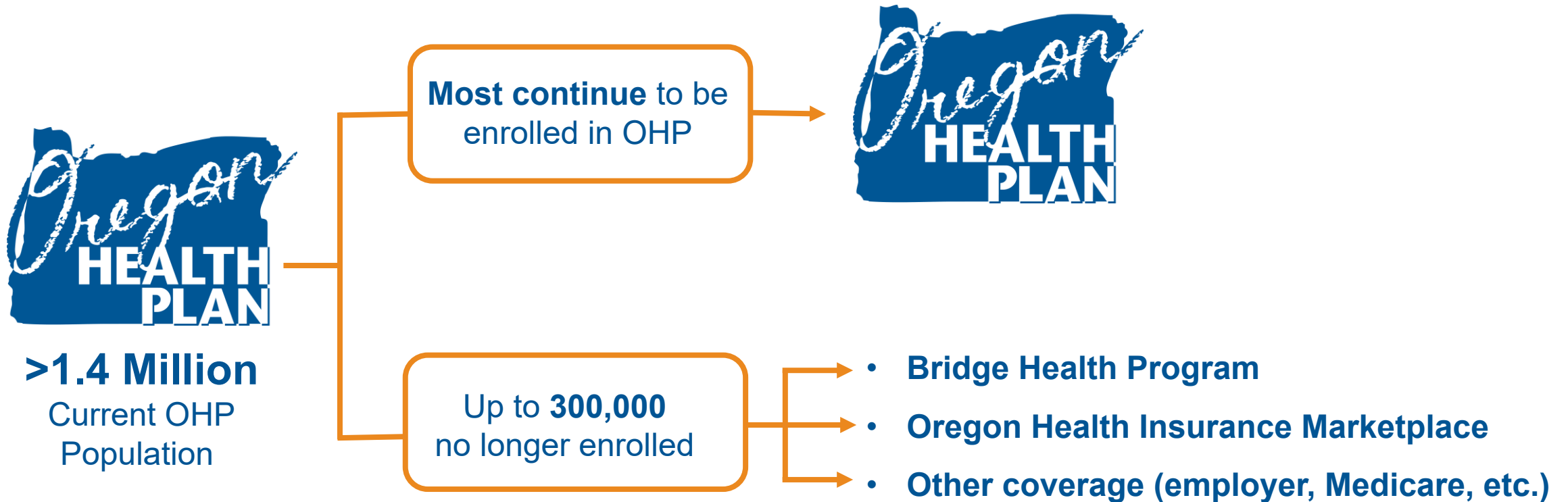
Unwinding Timeline

Medical notice mailings will occur in monthly batches. Notices will be mailed by population groups, not renewal dates. Responses to renewal notices and requests for information are due within 90 days



*mid-March, 2023: Final retroactive issuance of Summer EBT for children.

How OHP Members May be Affected by the Unwind



Changes coming to OHP and SNAP

Changes to OHP

What is changing in 2023:

- We now know OHP renewals begin April 1, 2023, set by the federal funding bill passed December 2022
- Once kids are renewed for OHP:
 - Kids under age 6 will not need to renew each year
 - Kids ages 6 – 18 will only need to renew every two years
- Oregon will permanently cover postpartum individuals on OHP for 12 months, with the exception of those who are on CWM+ who will only have 60 days postpartum coverage.

Changes to OHP

What does this mean for people who rely on benefits?

- Oregonians will be informed what they need to do to keep or change their coverage.
 - OHP enrollees will have 90 days to submit information to redetermine their eligibility for OHP.
 - People who are no longer eligible for OHP benefits will receive a 60-day closure notice.
 - The Marketplace will contact individuals no longer eligible for OHP to advise of coverage options through the Marketplace.
- OHA and ODHS will be creating resources for OHP members and staff to be prepared for April 1st.

OHP Communications Strategy

- Printed materials—in up to 17 languages—with QR codes, such as palm cards, business cards, flyers, brochures and more
 - Will be available to partners and community-based organizations
- Text messaging
- Paid and organic social media
- Video explainers in multiple languages
- Interviews and information shared via culturally specific media outlets
- Radio advertisements
- Audience-specific materials and resources

Dates TBD, some materials available in March

Changes to SNAP Emergency Allotments (EA)

- SNAP EA have been provided every month since April 2020. Households received a minimum EA benefit of \$95 each month, but the exact amount varied based on household size and recipient's regular SNAP amount.
- In December 2022, approximately 426,000 SNAP households received about \$70 million in EA food benefits in addition to their regular SNAP benefits.
- February 2023 will be the last month Oregon can distribute EA benefits to households.
- There are no hearing rights for loss of SNAP EA food benefits. The federal government decided to no longer make these payments for any SNAP household.

SNAP EA Communication Resources

- Mailer for SNAP households
- [Press release](#)
- Flyer for digital and print use
- Social media graphics and language
- Webpage
- ONE portal and website banners
- Talking points for partners
- FAQ for partners

Important Change to SNAP Benefits

Starting:
DATE

Background
Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, SNAP households have been receiving two payments every month from the SNAP program. The first payment is the regular SNAP benefit, and the second payment is the Emergency Allotment related to the COVID-19 emergency.

What is changing?
The COVID-19 emergency period is ending. Starting in June, the federal funding for additional SNAP benefits is going away. This means May will be the last month that Oregonians will receive the Emergency Allotment payment. Oregonians will continue to receive their regular SNAP allotment. That is not impacted by this change.




Additional Information
Emergency allotment amounts have been different based on the number of people in the household, but most households will have a significant decrease in SNAP when they no longer receive the Emergency Allotments. Oregonians with an Applicant Portal account can find the specific amount of SNAP benefits they will continue to receive on their My Dashboard. Steps to view this amount in the Applicant Portal are located on the back of this page.

Oregonians can also check their EBT Edge account at www.EBTedge.com to review their regular benefit amount. This is the amount received between the 1st and the 9th of the month listed in the transaction history section.

Because this is a federal decision, so the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) will not be able to supplement the decrease in benefits. We encourage households to budget accordingly and reach out to their local resources.

Regular SNAP	Emergency Allotment
No changes to this payment. SNAP household will continue to see this payment ongoing.	This allotment will end in May. In June, this benefit will be removed and cause a decrease in benefits.
Date Available Between the 1 st and 9 th of the month	Date Available Usually paid on the 11 th or 12 th of the month

If you have questions about your benefits, you can call ONE Customer Service at 1-800-699-9075 (711 TTY) or visit your local office. To find the nearest office, please visit one.oregon.gov/General/LocateAnOffice

SNAP EA Communication Resources

SNAP emergency food benefits are ending.

We know this will be a stressful transition. Contact **211info**, **Oregon Food Bank**, the **ADRC of Oregon**, your local **Community Action Partnership** or **ODHS** office for information, resources and support.

Sample social media cards. They have been translated from English to 10 additional languages.

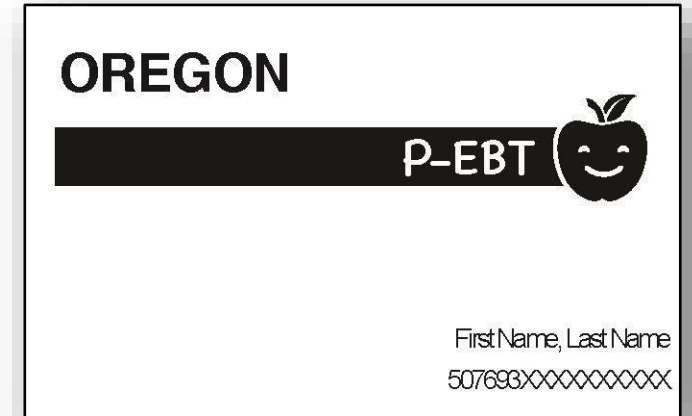
Los beneficios alimentarios de emergencia del SNAP terminarán pronto.

Prepárese al averiguar cuál es su cantidad regular del SNAP para crear un nuevo presupuesto. Entre a su cuenta en línea de EBT en **ebtEDGE.com** o inicie sesión en su cuenta de ONE en **one.oregon.gov**.



Summer P-EBT

- Retroactive issuance of 2022 Summer P-EBT will happen in mid-March
- Households will receive a lump sum of \$391 for each eligible child
 - Children under age 6 who received SNAP at any time between June 1 and August 31, 2022
 - School-aged children eligible for free or reduced meals during the last month of the 2021-22 school year
- Eligible households will receive a notice in the mail in mid-March (one for each child)
- A webpage and Summer P-EBT call center will be in place beforehand



Summer P-EBT recipients will receive this P-EBT card in the mail between mid-March and the end of May to access the food benefits

Connecting People with Food Resources in their Community

- Website in English and Spanish
- Toolkit with downloadable resources in multiple languages
- Social media advertising



NEED FOOD? NEEDFOOD.OREGON.GOV

There are resources available to help meet your essential needs.

Need food right now?
Free meals are available over the summer. Children 18 years and younger may receive free meals and snacks through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO). To find a summer meals site nearest to you visit www.summerfoodoregon.org, text "Food" or "Comida" to 304-304, or call 2-1-1.

SNAP (formerly food stamps) helps you buy groceries. Apply today. Find all the information you need at benefits.oregon.gov where you can apply for SNAP, cash, insurance, childcare and domestic violence assistance all in one place. Dial **211** or call your [local ODHS office](#) with questions. Receive food assistance while waiting for your unemployment insurance.

OREGON FOOD BANK
Food pantries, pick-up sites and delivery options: Oregon Food Bank's network of 1,400+ partner pantries and food assistance sites are open across Oregon and Southwest Washington. Many offer drive/walk-up or direct delivery options. Visit oregonfoodfinder.org for local locations, or call **2-1-1** for help.

WIC offers healthy food and nutrition and breastfeeding support for families with kids under age 5 and for pregnant women. Go to healthoregon.org/wic and click the WIC Interest Form button. You can also call **2-1-1** and ask to speak with a maternal and child health specialist. New participants are welcome!

ADRC
Need meals if you're 60+ or live with a disability?
The Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) of Oregon's Older Adult Meals Program ("Meals on Wheels") provides meals for people across Oregon. Anyone 60+ can receive these meals. There are no income requirements and no charge for meals. The ADRC can also help connect people with disabilities, regardless of age, to food resources. Visit adrcforegon.org or call **1-855-673-2372**.

2-1-1
Need more information on resources?
You can contact 2-1-1-info by calling **2-1-1**, texting your ZIP code to **898211**, or visiting 211info.org.
You can also contact the Aging and Disability Resource Connection of Oregon at **1-855-673-2372** or visit adrcforegon.org.

 Oregon Department of Human Services You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact 2-1-1 at 1-866-698-6155 or email help@211info.org. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.

Q&A Session

Use the Q&A function to submit your questions

If you would prefer to ask your question verbally,
please ask to be unmuted in the Q&A box



Any questions that we are not able to answer live will be responded to in writing and posted to <http://www.oregon.gov/covid-phe-partners>. Q&A from the previous webinars are now available on the website.

Call to Action for Partners

You can help by reminding people to:



Keep their mailing address, phone number, and email address current to ensure they receive vital information about their benefits.



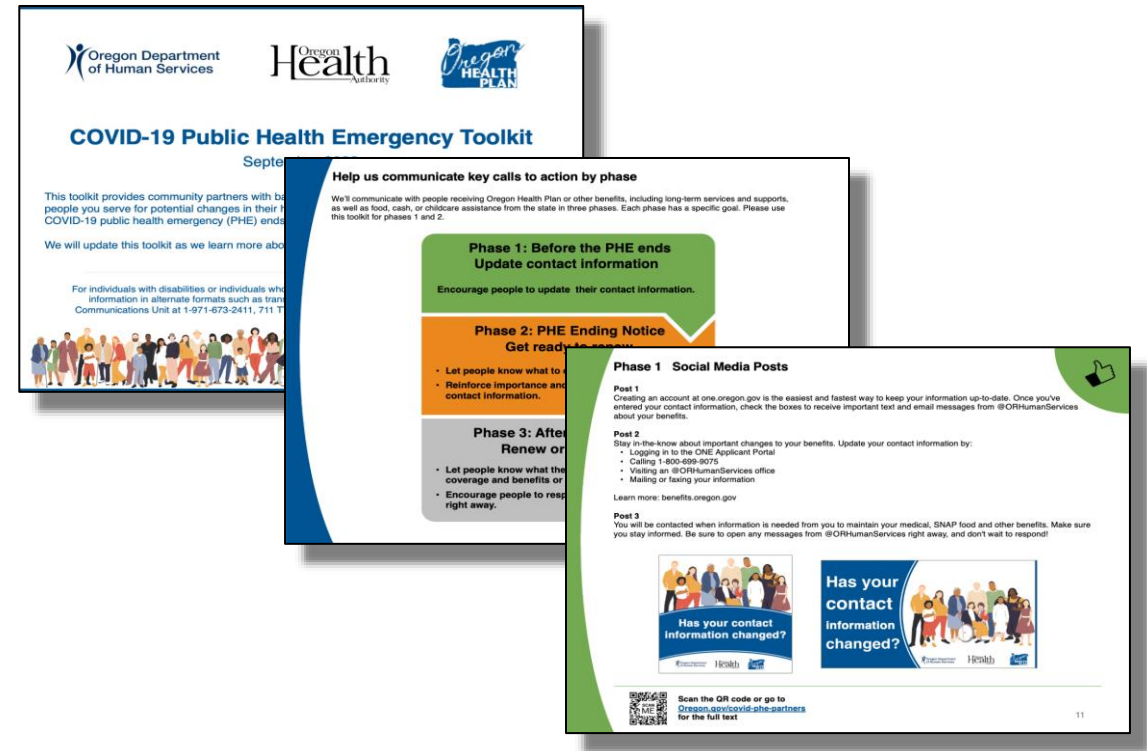
Watch for letters about their benefits from the state.



Provide the information the state needs to help them continue to receive benefits or connect with other resources when they don't qualify or see a reduction in benefits.

COVID-19 PHE Partner Toolkit

- The updated **End of the COVID-19 PHE Partner Toolkit** is now available for you to access at www.oregon.gov/covid-phe-partners.
- **Available in 13 languages:** Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Chuukese, English, Hmong, Korean, Marshallese, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.



Use the included tools to encourage people receiving benefits to update their contact information.

Staying connected



Save the Date: PHE Partner Webinars at 10 a.m., PST

English	Spanish
March 14	March 23
April 11	April 20
May 9	May 18



Visit www.oregon.gov/covid-phe-partners for COVID-19 PHE information, previous PHE webinar recordings and presentations, and the partner toolkit.



Email MICHAEL.J.MCDAID@dhsoha.state.or.us with questions or to share feedback.

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Thank you for attending!

