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# A BUNDLE OF RESOURCES

AND INFORMATION



# FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (FSP) OUTREACH MATERIALS FROM USDA

## Informational Food Stamp Program Resources Translated into 35 Languages

Five basic FSP documents have been translated into 35 languages and are easily downloadable for simple copying and distribution. An “I Speak” document is also available which allows a person to indicate to a caseworker or advocate what language he or she speaks so that accommodations can be made.

The following documents are available:

- **“Food Stamps Make America Stronger” (Questions and Answers About Getting and Using Food Stamps)**, *FNS-313* – A brochure that provides useful information about the FSP.
  - **“Public Charge”** – A notice to reassure immigrants that receiving food stamps will not make them public charges, so that it will not affect their immigration status.
  - **“Immigrant Eligibility Questions and Answers”** – A series of facts of interest to immigrants about eligibility for food stamp benefits, based on changes in the 2002 Farm Bill.
  - **“Documents Needed to Apply for Food Stamps”** – A list (in English and the target language) of documents that may be needed to prove eligibility for food stamp benefits.
  - **“Fact Sheet on Eligibility”** – Ten facts about the FSP for elderly (60 and older) and disabled persons.
- ▶ View and download at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/translations.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/translations.htm)



## “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” (Questions and Answers about the Food Stamp Program)

A basic brochure about FSP benefits, this resource highlights eligibility requirements and how to apply. Available in 35 languages.

- ▶ Download at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/translations.htm> (English version) or [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/translations.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/translations.htm) (in other languages)
- ▶ Order printed copies (English and Spanish only) online at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>; document number FNS-313.
- ▶ This publication is also included (in English and Spanish) on the enclosed disc.





## “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” Posters

Colorful posters featuring the theme “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” are available free via online order form. The posters direct people to the FSP national toll-free information line and are targeted to diverse audiences. Materials available in Spanish are identified.

- ▶ View and download PDF versions at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>
- ▶ Order copies online at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm).
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

Document number FNS-333 (Crowd); FNS-335 (Girl); FNS-351 (Girl – in Spanish); FNS-337 (Senior Man); FNS-339 (Woman/Girl); FNS-341 (Black Male); FNS-343 (Senior Woman – in Spanish); FNS-345 (Hispanic Male – in Spanish); FNS-347 (Woman in Wheelchair); and FNS-349 (Veteran).

## “10 Steps to Help You Fill Your Grocery Bag Through the Food Stamp Program”

This low-literacy flyer outlines 10 steps to follow to apply for food stamp benefits.

- ▶ View and download PDF version at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/applicant\\_recipients/10steps.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/applicant_recipients/10steps.pdf).
- ▶ The flyer is also included on the enclosed disc.

## “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” Flyers

The “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” theme and FSP national toll-free information line are prominently displayed on these flyers, available free via online order form. Similar to the posters, these flyers are directed to diverse audiences. Materials available in Spanish are identified.

- ▶ View and download at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/info.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/info.htm).
- ▶ Order printed copies (English and Spanish only) online at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

Document number FNS-334 (Crowd); FNS-336 (Girl); FNS-352 (Girl – in Spanish); FNS-338 (Senior Man); FNS-340 (Woman/Girl); FNS-342 (Black Male); FNS-344 (Senior Woman – in Spanish); FNS-346 (Hispanic Male – in Spanish); FNS-348 (Woman in Wheelchair); and FNS-350 (Veteran).

## “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” Bookmark

Vibrant in color, this bookmark promotes the FSP on-line prescreening tool and national toll-free information line in English on one side, and Spanish on the other.

- ▶ View and download at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/general.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/general.htm).
- ▶ Order copies online at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm).
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

Document number FSP-16.



### Food Stamp Application Envelope

Help potential recipients compile all of the necessary materials to apply for benefits with this handy envelope featuring a checklist of verification documents.

- ▶ Order copies online at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm).
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

Document number FSP-02 (comes with FSP-01, “10 Steps to Help You Fill Your Grocery Bag Through the Food Stamp Program.”)

### “Food Stamps Can Help You Now” Flyer

Featuring basic information about the immigrant eligibility restorations as a result of the 2002 Farm Bill, this flyer includes the national toll-free number and is available in English and Spanish.

- ▶ Order printed copies (English and Spanish only) online at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

### “Common Food Stamp Myths Concerning Elderly Households” Flyer

This flyer features 10 common myths about food stamp benefits and the elderly and refutes them with simple facts about the FSP.

- ▶ Download at: [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/Translations/English/10mythsp1.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/Translations/English/10mythsp1.pdf).
- ▶ Also included on the enclosed disc.

### “Food Stamps Make America Stronger” Magnet

This magnet can be placed on a refrigerator to serve as a reminder about the nutrition benefits of food stamps. A maximum of 200 can be ordered at one time.

- ▶ Order copies online at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/order-form.htm).

Document number FNS-367.

### Food Stamp Program Photo Library

Groups are encouraged to download photographs for use in communicating FSP nutrition education and outreach messages. FNS requests that these pictures be used only for promotion, informational, and educational purposes of a nonprofit nature.

- ▶ Download at [www.grande.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp\\_album.php](http://www.grande.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp_album.php).
- ▶ Order print-quality files by contacting FNS directly.

### “Community Hunger Champions—Helping People Eat Right When Money’s Tight” Video

This eight-minute video introduces influencers at the regional, State and local level to the Food Stamp Program Media Campaign, familiarizes viewers with campaign messages, and showcases the important role eligibility workers play in ensuring eligible individuals obtain the benefits of the Food Stamp Program. This video is a companion piece to the toolkit and will help eligibility workers and community partners understand how they can work together and utilize the outreach materials developed by FNS.

- ▶ The video is available through FNS in VHS and/or DVD format.



## FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (FSP) WEB RESOURCES

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### Main Food Stamp Program Web Page

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/)

A starting point for general information about the FSP.

#### History of the Food Stamp Program

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/rules/Legislation/history.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/rules/Legislation/history.htm)

Provides a brief history of the FSP from 1939 to the present.

#### Legislation, Rules, Waivers, and Certification Policy

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/government/legislation\\_rules\\_cert.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/government/legislation_rules_cert.htm)

Includes a waiver database showing which States have received waivers of sections of FSP rules for specific purposes or to accommodate local conditions.

#### USDA Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

[www.usda.gov/fbc/index.html](http://www.usda.gov/fbc/index.html)

Background information about USDA's initiatives for faith-based and community organizations.

#### HealthierUS

[www.healthierus.gov](http://www.healthierus.gov)

A central gateway to credible, accurate information to help people lead healthier lives.

### GENERAL FOOD STAMP PROGRAM OUTREACH RESOURCES

#### Main Food Stamp Outreach Web Page

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm)

A starting point for information about food stamp outreach including information about developing and submitting an optional State food stamp outreach plan for FNS approval; the food stamp outreach coalition; and promising outreach practices.

#### Food Stamp Program Radio PSAs

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/radio/default.htm>

A compilation of USDA's FSP public service announcements (PSAs). Also included on the enclosed DVD.

#### Food Stamp Outreach Coalition Information

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>

A core group of national antihunger advocacy groups, and other groups interested in promoting the health and nutrition benefits of the FSP. These organizations work to end hunger and improve nutrition at the national level through both advocacy and outreach to local antihunger projects.

#### Hunger Champions Information and Applications

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/default.htm>

Established to honor local offices that provide exemplary service in assisting eligible clients to obtain food stamps.

#### USDA Grant Information

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/grants.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/grants.htm)

Information about past and future research grants given by USDA to nonprofit organizations and others to improve access to the Food Stamp Program by low-income persons and families.

### PRESCREENING AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

#### FNS Prescreening Tool (Step 1)

[www.foodstamps-step1.usda.gov](http://www.foodstamps-step1.usda.gov)

This simple, low-literacy online prescreening tool enables users to input their information privately and, based on their information, tells them if they might be eligible for food stamp benefits and how much they might receive.

#### Links to Downloadable Food Stamp Applications and Local Office Locators

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/>

Features a United States map. Click on a State to find links to that State's downloadable food stamp application, links to local office locators, and list of outreach providers.



## RESEARCH, DATA, AND STATISTICS

**Food Stamp Program Participation Data**

[www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/Participation.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/Participation.htm)

Features data and studies about participation in the FSP and the characteristics of households receiving food stamp benefits. Also includes evaluation reports for past FNS outreach grant programs from 1993-1994 (see “Food Stamp Client Enrollment Assistance Demonstration Projects: Final Evaluation Report, July 1999”) and 2001 (see “Research Grants to Improve Food Stamp Program Access Through Partnerships and Technology: 2001 Program Evaluation Summary – September 2004”).

**Economic Impact of Food Stamp Benefits**

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/researchers/ers\\_reports.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/researchers/ers_reports.htm)  
[www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr26/fanrr26-6/](http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr26/fanrr26-6/)  
[www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/GeneralEconomy/linkages.htm](http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/GeneralEconomy/linkages.htm)

Links to studies about the economic benefits of food stamps. The research was conducted by USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS), which is USDA’s main source of economic information.

**Impact of Food Assistance on Nutrition and Health**

[www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3/](http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3/)  
 A comprehensive review that compiles and synthesizes published research about the impact of domestic food assistance programs on participants’ nutrition and health outcomes. There are several volumes to the report.

**United States Census Bureau**

[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

Vast amounts of data on income and poverty levels, including data by county and State.

## INFORMATION FOR RETAILERS

**General FSP Information for Food Retailers**

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/retailers/default.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/retailers/default.htm)

Main source of information about the FSP for food retailers including information about how to become an authorized retailer, frequently asked questions, and tips for food retailers about outreach.

**Food Stamp Notes**

[www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/retailers/information.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/retailers/information.htm)

Periodic newsletter (click on food stamp mailer) for authorized retailers participating in the FSP.

## NUTRITION EDUCATION

**Food Stamp Nutrition Connection**

[www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/](http://www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/)

Features resources related to food stamp nutrition education including lists of State and local food stamp nutrition education cooperators (“State Gates”).

**Eat Smart. Play Hard.™**

[www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhard/About/overview.html](http://www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhard/About/overview.html)

FNS campaign to motivate children to be active and eat healthy. Features fun activities for kids and information for caregivers. Free materials available.

**Nutrition Education Resources**

[www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/National\\_FSNE.html](http://www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/National_FSNE.html)

Links to national food stamp nutrition education resources including guidance for developing an optional State nutrition education plan and submitting it for FNS approval.





## FOOTNOTES FROM INTRODUCTION

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation. Trends in Food Stamp Program Participation Rates: 1999 to 2002. By Karen Cunnygham. Project Officer, Kate Fink. Alexandria, VA: 2004. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/Trends99-2002.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Hanson, Kenneth, and Elise Golan (2002). Effects of Changes in Food Stamp Expenditures Across the U.S. Economy. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr26/fanrr26-6/fanrr26-6.pdf>. Note: The economic effect of increasing food stamp benefits was measured for the whole U.S. economy and may vary by location.

<sup>3</sup> Food and Nutrition Assistance Programs and the General Economy: Links to the General Economy and Agriculture (2002). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/GeneralEconomy/linkages.htm>. Note Even though recipients spend all food stamps on food, the food stamps allow them to shift some of their previous cash expenditures on food to alternative uses.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (2004). [http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/fsavghh\\$.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/fsavghh$.htm). Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/Trends99-2002.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> STARS Quarterly Management Activity Report, 10/23/04.

<sup>7</sup> Fraker, Thomas M., Sharon K. Long, and Charles E. Post (1990). Analyses of the 1985 Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals—Volume I, Estimating Usual Dietary Intake, Assessing Dietary Adequacy, and Estimating Program Effects: Applications of Three Advanced Methodologies Using FNS's Four-Day Analysis File. Alexandria, VA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Available at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/FOODSTAMPREPORTS/FSP-11.PDF>.

Also: Levedahl, JW. The Effect of Food Stamps on Household Food Expenditures. Technical Bulletin No. 1794. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture: Economic Research Service.

<sup>8</sup> Fox, Mary Kay, William Hamilton, (editors) and Biing-Hwan Lin (2004). Effects of Food Assistance and Nutrition Programs on Nutrition and Health, Volume 3, Literature Review. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture: Economic

Research Service, USDA, 2004. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3/>.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2003, FSP-04-CHAR, by Karen Cunnygham and Beth Brown. Project Officer, Kate Fink. Alexandria, VA: 2004. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/2003Characteristics.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Gleason, Phillip, Peter Schochet, and Robert Moffit (1998). The Dynamics of Food Stamp Program Participation in the Early 1990s. Alexandria, VA: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/DYNAMICS.PDF>.

<sup>11</sup> Rosenbaum, Dorothy and David Super (2005). The Food Stamp Program: Working Smarter for Working Families. Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Available at <http://www.cbpp.org/3-15-05fa.htm>.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Gleason P, Rangarajan A, Olson C. Dietary Intake and Dietary Attitudes Among Food Stamp Participants and Other Low-Income Individuals. Report prepared for the Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, September 2000. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/Nutrition-Education/Files/FSPDiet.pdf>.

<sup>14</sup> Obesity Costs States Billions in Medical Expenses. Press Release. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, January 21, 2004. [http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/press/archive/state\\_obesity\\_1\\_2004.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/press/archive/state_obesity_1_2004.htm).

<sup>15</sup> Devaney, Barbara, Pamela Haines, and Robert Moffitt (1989). Assessing the Dietary Effects of the Food Stamp Program -Volumes I and II. Alexandria, VA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Available at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/FOODSTAMPREPORTS/FSP-9A.PDF> and <http://www.nal.usda.gov/foodstamp/FOODSTAMPREPORTS/FSP-9B.PDF>.

Also: Allen, Joyce E., and Kenneth E. Gadson (1983). Nutrient Consumption Patterns of Low-Income Households. Technical Bulletin No. 1685. Washington, DC: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.

Also: Fox, Mary Kay, William Hamilton, (editors) and Biing-Hwan Lin (2004). Effects of Food Assistance and Nutrition



Programs on Nutrition and Health, Volume 3, Literature Review. Washington, DC: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3/>.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2003, FSP-04-CHAR, by Karen Cunyngham and Beth Brown. Project Officer, Kate Fink. Alexandria, VA: 2004. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/2003Characteristics.pdf>.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.





## NATIONAL & REGIONAL FOOD STAMP PROGRAM OUTREACH AND MEDIA CONTACTS

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many people contributed to this toolkit. We want to acknowledge and thank them all for their commitment and assistance.

In compiling this toolkit, USDA FNS consulted representatives from National, State and local organizations, including:

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ellen Vollinger, Food Research and Action Center, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Abby Hughes Holsclaw, National League of Cities, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Bill Bolling, Atlanta Community Food Bank, Atlanta, GA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniella Levine, Human Services Coalition of Dade County, Inc., Miami, FL</li> <li>• George Matics, Cardenas Markets, Inc., Ontario, CA</li> <li>• Rich Savner, Pathmark Stores, Inc., Carteret, NJ</li> <li>• Dennis Barrett, Hunger Fellow, 2005</li> <li>• Laura Tatum, Hunger Fellow, 2005</li> </ul>
ORGANIZATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Public Human Services Association, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Capital Area Food Bank, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Community Action Partnership for Madison County, Inc., Morrisville, NY</li> <li>• FoodChange, New York, NY</li> <li>• Fresno Metro Ministry, Fresno, CA</li> <li>• Human Services Coalition of Dade County, Inc., Miami, FL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Bread – The Walk for Hunger, Boston, MA</li> <li>• United Way of New York City, New York, NY</li> <li>• Urban Justice Center, New York, NY</li> <li>• Food Stamp Program Outreach Coalition Members</li> <li>• USDA FNS Regional Offices</li> <li>• Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, Burlington, VT</li> <li>• Watertown Tab, Watertown, MA</li> </ul>

In addition, we would like to thank the following organizations for their assistance in the production of the “Community Hunger Champions—Helping People Eat Right When Money’s Tight” video:

ORGANIZATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexandria Department of Social Services, Alexandria, VA</li> <li>• American Public Human Services Administration, Washington, DC</li> <li>• America’s Second Harvest, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Capital Area Food Bank, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Community Harvest Food Bank, Fort Wayne, IN</li> <li>• Connecticut Association for Human Services, Hartford, CT</li> <li>• District of Columbia Department of Human Services, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Fairfax County Department of Social Services, Fairfax, VA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Bank of Central New York, East Syracuse, NY</li> <li>• Food Marketing Institute, Washington, DC</li> <li>• Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), Washington, DC</li> <li>• Loudoun County Department of Social Services, Leesburg, VA</li> <li>• National Eligibility Workers Association, Nixa, MO</li> <li>• National League of Cities, Washington, DC</li> <li>• North Dakota Department of Human Services, Bismarck, ND</li> <li>• Second Harvest Food Bank, Santa Cruz, CA</li> <li>• U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC</li> </ul>

