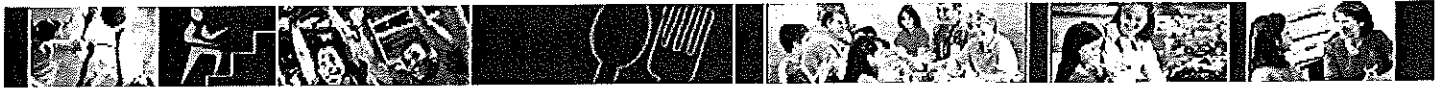


Supplemental
Nutrition
Assistance
Program

Putting Healthy Food
Within Reach

Learn how you can accept SNAP benefits at Farmers' Markets

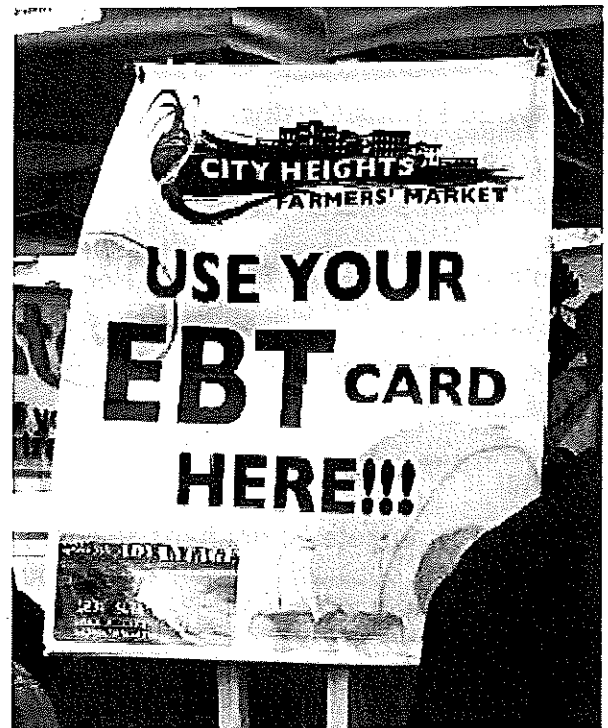


The USDA Food and Nutrition Service is dedicated to providing resources to Farmers' Markets.

Across the nation, the number of farmers' markets license to accept SNAP benefits is increasing. As people discover the benefit of buying fresh, nutritious, local products, farmers and farmers' markets are seizing the opportunity to broaden their customer base by adding a SNAP payment option.

If you are interested in obtaining more information or becoming authorized to accept SNAP benefits please visit the SNAP Farmers' Market website or call (877) 823-4369 for a paper application. For additional information please visit the online resources listed below. If you have any questions please contact Robin Masters at (317) 510-7226 or at robin.masters@fns.usda.gov.

Check out the "SNAP at Farmers Markets: A How-To Handbook" available at the SNAP Farmers' Market website.



Online Resources

SNAP Farmers' Market website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/ebt/fm.htm>

Food and Nutrition Service website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov>

WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/FMNP/>

Farmers Market Coalition Resource Library: <http://farmersmarketcoalition.org/resources/>

National Association of Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs: <http://nafmnp.org/>

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/FARMERSMARKETS>

SNAP Application FAQs

These are typical questions asked regarding completion of the application to accept SNAP benefits.

Which box should I check regarding Type of Ownership?

If the market established is a Privately Held Corporation or Limited Liability Company select the appropriate box. Otherwise, markets should select Sole Proprietorship. Provide ownership information for the market master or person who is responsible for operation of the market.

How should markets that are non-profits, or sponsored by municipalities, answer Type of Ownership?

Select either Publicly Owner Corporation or Cooperative as ownership type. All non-profit farmers' markets must submit documentation of non-profit status with their application (i.e. IRS exemption letter or Articles of Incorporation for a Domestic Non-Profit Corporation).

How do I estimate my annual retail sales?

For a farmers' market with multiple vendors, ask each vendor to estimate a dollar amount of what they sell in a month. Then multiply that number by the number of months the market is open.

Do copies of photo identification and social security numbers need to be submitted?

Whether they are an officer, board member, or a market master, photo identification and documentation of social security number must be received for an individual responsible for the operation of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program at a farmers' market.

What if my market is not required to obtain (and therefore does not have) a license to operate?

Farmers' markets do not need to submit a business license with their application. However, markets that have a business license are encouraged to submit it.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

Please direct all inquiries to:

Robin D. Masters
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Indianapolis Field Office
(317) 510 – 7226
robin.masters@fns.usda.gov