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SNAP Policy Update #3 16-17'

DATE: August 17, 2016

RE: NYS SNAP Benefit Card Has New Design

This policy update highlights information provided by the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) through GIS 16 TA/DC047. The SNAP Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card has been redesigned.



The rollout of the new card design began this month in NYC and will continue in September for upstate counties. There will be no mass replacement of current EBT cards. Only new applicants and those needing a replacement card (due to damage or loss of current card) will receive a card with the new design.

Current EBT cards will continue to be valid and can continue to be used to access SNAP benefits. There is no change in how the card works.

SNAP vendors in NYS must accept SNAP EBT cards with either the old design or the new design. Photos are optional for SNAP in NYS, therefore SNAP vendors must accept either card design, regardless of whether or not there is a photo on the card.

Current SNAP recipients will receive information about the new card design in the upcoming notice about the October 1 changes to the Thrifty Food Plan allotments.

Links:

- [GIS 16 TA/DC047](#) – Redesign Common Benefit Identification Card (CBIC)
- [GIS 16 TA/DC006](#) - Redesign Common Benefit Identification Card (CBIC)
- [NYS EBT Card Webpage and Resources](#)

Help for Your Clients

There are Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) Coordinators in many communities across NYS. NOEP Coordinators are available to help potentially eligible individuals and families apply for SNAP benefits by:

- conducting confidential pre-screenings to see if a family may be eligible for SNAP,
- assisting with completing the application, including the online version,
- answering any questions, and/or
- working with current recipients around recertification or other issues with their SNAP case.

NOEP Coordinators can also come to your community site to help your clients.

To find out if there is a NOEP Coordinator in your community, go to: <http://www.foodhelpny.org>.

Visit <http://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/dss.asp> for a listing of SNAP offices and contact information outside of NYC or call 1-800-342-3009.

Visit http://www.nyc.gov/html/hra/html/services/snap_centers.shtml for a listing of SNAP offices in New York City or call 311.

For More Information

If you have, any questions about this SNAP update or SNAP in general, please contact Dawn Secor via phone at (518) 436-8757 ext. 112, or by e-mailing dawn.secor@hungersolutionsny.org