

A Recipe for Good Health

Transitional FoodShare Benefits

What are transitional FoodShare benefits?

Transitional FoodShare benefits are temporary benefits for FoodShare members who are leaving the Wisconsin Works program (W-2) or Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, known as Tribal TANF. Transitional FoodShare benefits last for five months.

How do I get transitional FoodShare benefits?

To get transitional FoodShare benefits, a member of your FoodShare household must have:

- Participated in a W-2 payment tier or in Tribal TANF.
- Got at least one cash payment from W-2 or Tribal TANF.
- Got FoodShare benefits for the month the transitional FoodShare benefits are determined, and the last W-2 or Tribal TANF payment was also issued for that same month.

You do not have to apply for transitional FoodShare benefits. Your agency will see if you can get transitional FoodShare benefits when you meet the program rules. If you can get transitional FoodShare benefits, you will get a letter telling you how much your FoodShare benefit amount is, and the benefits will be put on your QUEST card.

How much will I get?

Transitional FoodShare benefit amounts are based on your household size, income, and expenses for the month prior to the last W-2 or Tribal TANF payment. The amount of your last W-2 or Tribal TANF payment is not used when figuring out the amount of transitional FoodShare benefits you will get. If you have any changes in income from a job, child support, or other source that takes place during or after the month of the last W-2 or Tribal TANF payment, that will also not be used.

Will my transitional FoodShare benefit amount change?

Your benefit amount will stay the same for the fivemonth benefit period unless someone in your household:

- Joins a different FoodShare household.
- Moves out of your household and applies for FoodShare on their own.

If any of the above takes place, your local agency will figure out your new benefit amount. The new benefit amount will be based on changes in household size, income, and expenses. This new benefit amount will remain the same for the rest of the five-month benefit period. If your local agency learns about other changes from you, someone in your household, or another program, the amount of your transitional FoodShare benefit will not change unless you or someone in your household asks for regular FoodShare benefits.

Do I need to report changes?

You and your household are not required to report any changes while getting transitional FoodShare benefits.

Can I apply for regular FoodShare benefits?

If your household is getting transitional FoodShare benefits, you may apply for regular FoodShare benefits at any time. If your household size increases, your income goes down, or your shelter expenses go up, your household could get more benefits with regular FoodShare. If your regular FoodShare benefits are less than the amount of your transitional FoodShare benefits, your household may choose to continue getting transitional FoodShare benefits.

How do I get regular FoodShare benefits after transitional FoodShare benefits end?

To get regular FoodShare benefits after your fivemonth transitional FoodShare benefits end, you must complete a FoodShare renewal, including an interview. Your household will get a letter about completing the renewal about 45 days before the end of your five-month period. To avoid a gap in FoodShare benefits, your renewal must be completed during the last month your household gets transitional FoodShare benefits. If your household chooses not to apply for regular FoodShare, your FoodShare benefits will end.

Where can I get more information?

If you think you can get transitional FoodShare benefits or if you have other questions, contact your local agency. To find your agency, go to www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/imagency/, or call Member Services at 1-800-362-3002. (TTY and translation services are available.)

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1. mail:

Food and Nutrition Service, USDA 1320 Braddock Place, Room 334 Alexandria, VA 22314; or

2. fax:

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