

DCF Announces First Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) in Response to Hurricane Ian

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary Shevaun Harris announced that Florida’s application for Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) has been approved. D-SNAP provides food assistance for individuals and families impacted by Hurricane Ian and who are not receiving food assistance benefits through the regular Supplemental Nutrition Program (SNAP).

D-SNAP will be implemented by DCF in phases and by county beginning Monday, October 10, 2022. Pre-registration is required by all applicants. To ensure the fastest service to households who are eligible to receive benefits, DCF will begin the first phase by offering a phone option. In the coming weeks, DCF will host in-person D-SNAP events for residents who cannot participate by phone. The locations for in-person D-SNAP events will be announced soon.

“Our Department is working around the clock to provide critical resources to Florida families impacted by Hurricane Ian,” said **Secretary Shevaun Harris**. “Our goal is to provide families with support as quickly as possible. We encourage those in the impacted counties to take advantage of the virtual/telephonic option so that there would be no need to attend an in-person event.”

Who is eligible for D-SNAP?

To qualify for D-SNAP benefits:

- Applicants must NOT be receiving regular SNAP benefits
- Applicants must have been living or working in a disaster-declared county at the time of Hurricane Ian
- Applicants must have suffered a disaster-related loss such as:
 - Damage to their home(s) or self-employment property
 - Loss of food
 - Reduction or loss of income
 - Other disaster-related expenses
- Applicants must meet financial eligibility requirements

What Benefits are Available through D-SNAP?

- Eligible recipients who participate in the telephonic D-SNAP event will receive an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card by mail that can be used to purchase food at authorized USDA food retailers.
- The EBT card cannot be used for alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or non-food items.

How do I Apply for D-SNAP?

1. **Pre-register** online by visiting MyFLFamilies.com/DSNAP
 - Pre-registration is **ONLY** available for counties designated in each phase. **View the Phase Schedule by County below.**
 - Verification is required for certain elements of the application.
 - Eligibility can be determined more quickly and easily if a state driver’s license or identification number and a Social Security number is provided.
 - Pre-registration will only be open for counties listed in the current phase.
 - Residents who are unable to pre-register online can visit one of the D-SNAP event locations in-person when they are open.
2. **After online pre-registration** is complete, applicants must complete a **phone interview** by calling the D-SNAP Call Center or attend an on-site event at a later date.
 - **Applicants may only call during the designated dates and operating hours for their county.**

- **Phone interview times are designated based on the first letter of the applicant's last name.**
- See Phase Schedule by County for details.
- D-SNAP Call Center: 850-663-1919, Hours: 7 A.M. – 5 P.M. EST

PHASE ONE: Schedule by County

1. **Online pre-registration** will be OPEN for **Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Hardee, Lee, Sarasota, and Polk** counties from Monday, October 10 at 12:01 A.M. through Sunday, October 16 at 11:59 P.M.
2. **Pre-register online** by visiting MyFLFamilies.com/DSNAP
3. **After pre-registration** is complete, applicants in the Phase One Schedule must **call the D-SNAP Call Center** at 850-663-1919 between 7 A.M. AND 5 P.M. EST on the **designated day** listed below to complete a phone interview.
 - Last name begins with A-F: Call on Thursday, October 13
 - Last name begins with G-N: Call on Friday, October 14
 - Last name begins with O-Z: Call on Saturday, October 15
 - Any last name: Call on Sunday, October 16

PHASE TWO: Schedule by County

Counties: Flagler, Highlands, Manatee, Orange, Pinellas, and St. Johns

Pre-Registration Dates: Monday, October 17 – Sunday, October 23

Telephonic Dates: Thursday, October 20 – Sunday, October 23

PHASE THREE: Schedule by County

Counties: Hillsborough, Lake, Osceola, Putnam, Seminole, and Volusia

Pre-Registration Dates: Monday, October 24 – Sunday, October 30

Telephonic Dates: Thursday, October 27 – Sunday, October 30

The Department will hold in-person D-SNAP events for residents who cannot participate by phone. On-site locations will be announced soon. Residents who live or work in one of the eligible counties in phase two and three cannot pre-register until D-SAP is announced for these counties. Visit MyFLFamilies.com/HurricaneJan to learn more.