



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Department for Community Based Services
Office of the Commissioner

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Kentucky Update on SNAP Online Purchasing Program **April 28, 2020**

The Kentucky Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), announced that families eligible for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) can purchase groceries online at some retailers. On April 28, 2020, SNAP (food benefits) retailers can shop and pay for eligible groceries online at Amazon. Beginning April 30, SNAP recipients can shop and pay online for eligible groceries at Walmart.

The expanded shopping option is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) pilot program that gives SNAP retailers in several states access to online grocery shopping and payment during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. DCBS administers Kentucky's food stamp program, which is funded by the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service.

Amazon and Walmart are the first retailers in Kentucky to offer online SNAP purchasing. SNAP retailers will be able to make eligible purchases with their electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards as a payment method by visiting amazon.com and/or walmart.com. Amazon will ship statewide. Walmart will deliver from select stores and also offers grocery pickup as an option to SNAP recipients and all other households at all locations. Shipping and delivery fees, when applicable, must be paid with another means of payment. They cannot be paid with SNAP benefits.

More information on who can become an online SNAP retailer and how to apply is available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer>. More retailers will be added. Check retailers' websites for updates.

This online purchasing option allows SNAP recipients the same socially distanced shopping choices that everyone has. This pilot allows greater access to healthy meals for all Kentuckians.

SNAP increases a family's food-purchasing power. Kentucky's SNAP participation is over 500,000 individuals, more than 225,000 households, and issues nearly \$750 million annually in federal funding.

Kentuckians can apply for SNAP by calling 1-855-306-8959. Individuals can also file an application, complete a recertification, or report a change through the benefit Self-Service Portal at www.benefind.ky.gov.

Learn more about SNAP and other DCBS assistance programs at <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs>.

For the most current information about Kentucky's response to the coronavirus, please visit www.kycovidky.ky.gov.