



Contact Governor Healey's office and urge her to fund SNAP if the federal government does not do its job. Go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/email-the-governors-office> , add your contact information, and then cut and paste the message below into the message section.

Dear Governor Healey,

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation's largest food assistance program, serving 42 million Americans—including 16 million children, 8 million seniors, and 4 million people with disabilities.

Beginning **November 1, 2025**, more than **one million Massachusetts residents**, including **337,000 children**, risk losing SNAP benefits due to the federal shutdown and the Trump Administration's refusal to release emergency funds.

On the **Southcoast**, the impact is especially severe: nearly **half of New Bedford households** rely on SNAP, compared to the **10–15% statewide average**. With an average benefit of **\$323 per month**, SNAP supplements—but rarely covers—household food budgets, making any disruption devastating.

This preventable crisis threatens a vital lifeline for families across the Commonwealth. The **USDA has contingency funds available**, and while Massachusetts' Congressional delegation has urged immediate action, if the Administration fails to respond, **state leaders must act decisively** to protect families from hunger and close the gap in benefits.

If November's benefits are not issued, and families are forced to turn to the statewide food pantry system, the four Massachusetts food banks would need to provide up to \$56 million worth of additional meals—an impossible burden given current constraints on funding, volunteers, and food supplies.

With less than one week remaining, many families remain unaware of the cliff they are about to be pushed over. Without time to prepare, they may be left scrambling—falling into debt, skipping meals, or relying on already overstretched emergency food systems.

We respectfully urge you to act with urgency. Please identify and allocate the necessary state funds to safeguard Massachusetts families and businesses. This may include utilizing the Commonwealth's rainy day fund to shield residents from the oncoming crisis.

Massachusetts has long been a leader in protecting its most vulnerable. Now is the time to reaffirm that commitment.

Sincerely,