

# Federal Food Benefits Breakdown at RI Farmers Markets

	<b>SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly “food stamps”)</b>	<b>WIC – FMNP (Farmers Market Nutrition Program)</b>	<b>WIC – CVV (Cash Value Voucher)</b>	<b>Senior Coupons</b>
<b>RI Lead State Agency</b>	Department of Human Services	Department of Health	Department of Health	Division of Agriculture (within DEM)
<b>Federal Agency</b>	Food & Nutrition Service (USDA)	Food & Nutrition Service (USDA)	Food & Nutrition Service (USDA)	Food & Nutrition Service (USDA)
<b>Require market location registration?</b>	Yes, to run machines, need to register with FNS to become a SNAP retailer and get machine through DHS.	Yes, with DOH, on an annual basis.	Yes, with DOH, on an annual basis.	No.
<b>Requires farmer to register?</b>	No, unless farmers want to get their own processing machine	Yes, with DOH. They need a stamp to cash their checks, and they need to re-register every other year.	Yes, with DOH. They need a stamp to cash their checks, and they need to re-register every other year.	Yes, with DEM. They need a stamp to cash their checks.
<b>Contact Person for Vendors</b>	Susan Destefanis, EBT Coordinator – RI DHS <a href="mailto:susan.destefanis@dhs.ri.gov">susan.destefanis@dhs.ri.gov</a>	Lauren Piluso – RI DOH <a href="mailto:Lauren.Piluso@health.ri.gov">Lauren.Piluso@health.ri.gov</a>	Lauren Piluso – RI DOH <a href="mailto:Lauren.Piluso@health.ri.gov">Lauren.Piluso@health.ri.gov</a>	Pete Susi <a href="mailto:peter.susi@dem.ri.gov">peter.susi@dem.ri.gov</a>
<b>Contact for Shoppers &amp; Participants</b>	DHS Office URI SNAP Outreach 1-866-306-0270	WIC Office	WIC Office	Senior Center
<b>Can Buy</b>	Food starts, all grocery items that are wrapped in a package to take home (see below for expanded details)	All fruits and veggies	All fruits and veggies	All fresh fruits, vegetables, honey and herbs
<b>Cannot Buy</b>	Hot prepared foods (food truck items, soap, body products, pet food, )	Honey, non-produce foods	Honey, non-produce foods	Non-produce foods
<b>Distribution schedule</b>	Monthly, at beginning of month	Once per season per family starting in June, ending in September	Monthly	Once per season per participant starting in June

<b>Expire?</b>	Never	Yes, at end of October.	Yes, monthly.	Yes, at end of October.
<b>Form of benefit</b>	Electronic, on EBT Card (electronic benefit transfer)	Paper check	Paper check	Paper check
<b>Value</b>	Depends on family size and income.	\$21 per season, come in 3 \$7 checks	Depends on family size and income.	\$15 per season, come in 3 \$5 checks
<b>How to spend?</b>	Swipe for Tokens at the market manager table, spend the tokens directly with the vendors	Spend the checks with the farmers directly. Change cannot be given for checks. Families do not need to spend all their checks at once.	Spend the checks with the farmers directly. Change cannot be given for checks. Families do not need to spend all their checks at once.	Spend the checks with the farmers directly. Change cannot be given for checks. Families do not need to spend all their checks at once.

### Eligible Food Items for SNAP Expanded Details

Households <b><u>CAN</u></b> use SNAP benefits to buy:	Households <b><u>CANNOT</u></b> use SNAP benefits to buy:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foods for the household to eat, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Breads, cereals</li> <li>○ Fruits, vegetables</li> <li>○ Meats, dairy, poultry</li> <li>○ Dairy products</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Seeds and plants which produce food for the household to eat.</li> <li>• Cold prepared foods (i.e. Italian sandwich). Nothing served hot is allowed.</li> <li>• Cold beverages (i.e. Bottled water, smoothies, energy drinks, iced coffee)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes, tobacco</li> <li>• Non-food items (dog treats, soap, candles)</li> <li>• Vitamins and medicines</li> <li>• Hot prepared foods</li> </ul>

**Note: Pumpkins, Holiday Gift Baskets, and Special Occasion Cakes**

Pumpkins are edible and eligible for purchase with SNAP benefits. However, inedible gourds and pumpkins that are used solely for ornamental purposes are not eligible items.

Gift baskets that contain both food and non-food items, are not eligible for purchase with SNAP benefits if the value of the non-food items exceeds 50 percent of the purchase price.