



The Farmers Market Coalition's Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program





Farmers Market Coalition's Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

What is It?

- Through FMC's program, FNS will cover the costs of purchasing or renting SNAP EBT equipment and services (set-up costs, monthly service fees, and wireless fees) for up to three years.
- Transaction fees (for SNAP EBT, credit, and debit payments) **are not** covered through this program.
- Approved applicants select equipment and service from one of four participating service providers: Dharma, MarketLink, MerchantSource and TSYS.





Farmers Market Coalition's
Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Who's Eligible?

SNAP-authorized farmers markets, and direct-marketing farmers who sell at one or more farmers markets, are eligible if they:

- A. Do not currently possess functioning EBT equipment; **OR**
- B. Currently possess functioning EBT equipment, but received that equipment before May 2, 2012.

***There is no longer a restriction on when the farmers market or direct-marketing farmer became SNAP authorized.** Farmers markets and direct-marketing farmers with existing or new SNAP permits will be eligible for free equipment.*

Direct marketing farmers must participate as a vendor in at least one farmers market in order to be eligible. Whether or not that market has other vendors offering SNAP is not relevant.



Farmers Market Coalition's Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

How to Apply:

1. **APPLY:** Go to [FMCToolbox.org](https://www.fmc-toolbox.org) to complete your application. You'll need an email address, an **FNS number** and a **completed W9 form**.
2. **GET APPROVED:** After FMC confirms your eligibility with the USDA FNS, you'll receive an approval email from FMC containing your FMC order number, and a link to info on participating SNAP EBT service providers.
3. **CHOOSE A SERVICE PROVIDER:** Select your preferred service provider and contact them directly to begin their sign-up process. Forward your chosen service provider your FMC approval email.
4. **SIGN-UP:** Complete the paperwork that your service provider requires. After everything is in order, the service provider will send an invoice for equipment and services to FMC. Once FMC pays the invoice, the equipment provider will release the equipment directly to you.
5. **RECEIVE EQUIPMENT:** Alert FMC via email when you have successfully received your equipment. Follow the directions provided by your service provider to activate your equipment and service. Start using your new equipment to accept SNAP!
6. **REPORT:** At the end of the year, report your SNAP redemption and transaction totals to FMC.



- [FMC Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program Info](#)
- [Application](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

* Required Field

▼ 1. Eligibility*

Question 1

- ☐ I am a direct marketing farmer who participates in at least one farmers market.
- ☐ I am applying on behalf of a farmers market.

Question 2

- ☐ I do not currently possess functioning EBT equipment.
- ☐ I currently possess functioning EBT equipment, but received that EBT equipment before May 2, 2012.

Continue

2. Contact & Account Info*

- 3. Verification*

Submit

Copyright 2014 Farmers Market Coalition

farmersmarketcoalition.org

USDA-P

Contact Us

Sign in

coalition.org

USDA

Contact Us



Farmers Market Coalition's
Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Visit bit.ly/ProviderGuide for more info on service providers.

Dharma Merchant Services

www.dharmamerchantservices.com

Nick Bencivenga
(866) 615-5157 x105
nick@dharmams.com

MerchantSource®

www.merchantsource.com

Kim Lyons
1 (800) 313-5198
mobile (239) 246-7732
KimL@merchantsource.com

MarketLink

www.marketlink.org

Amy Crone
(443) 212-8084
amy.crone@marketlink.org

TSYS

www.tsys.com

| | |
|--|--|
| Jason Butts | Chris Shanahan |
| (402) 574-7086 | cshanahan@tsys.com |
| jbutts@tsys.com | (402) 574-7016 |





Farmers Market Coalition's Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Sign Up Days:

- Contact the four service providers to see if they'd be able to send a representative.
- Contact FMC to alert us of the date and time of your sign-up day. We'll help promote it.
- FMC will send booklets and fliers on the Equipment Program to have onsite upon request. The fliers will include information on all the participating service providers—even those not present at the sign-up day. Upon approval, markets and farmers should receive a flier on the Equipment Program.

The Farmers Market Coalition's
Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Announcing New Rules for 2016!
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has continued to partner with the Farmers Market Coalition (FMC) to provide eligible farmers markets and direct marketing farmers with free electronic benefit transfer (EBT) equipment necessary to process Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in 2016.

Who's Eligible?
SNAP-authorized farmers markets and direct marketing farmers (who sell at one or more farmers markets) are eligible for funding if they:

- A. Do not currently possess functioning SNAP EBT equipment; **OR**
- B. Currently possess functioning SNAP EBT equipment, but received that equipment before May 2, 2012.

**Note that the date of SNAP authorization is no longer included in eligibility requirements. FMC needs to know that your SNAP permit is active and in good standing, but doesn't need to know when you obtained it.*

What's Covered?
FMC will cover the costs of purchasing or renting SNAP EBT equipment and services (set-up costs, monthly service fees) for up to three years. Approved applicants choose their own SNAP EBT service provider from a list of participating companies: Dharma, MarketLink, MerchantSource, and TSYS. Transaction fees (for SNAP EBT, credit, and debit payments) will **not** be covered.

How Do I Apply?
Visit FMctoolbox.org to fill out the online application. An email address, FNS number (also known as SNAP permit number), a signed W9 form, contact information, and some general information about your farm or farmers market will be required.

1 APPLY: Go to FMctoolbox.org to complete your application. You'll need your FNS number and a completed W9 form.

2 GET APPROVED: After FMC confirms your eligibility with the USDA FNS, you'll receive an approval email from FMC containing your FMC order number, and a link to info on participating SNAP EBT service providers.

3 CHOOSE A SERVICE PROVIDER: Once you've chosen your preferred service provider, contact the service provider directly to begin their sign-up process, and forward the service provider you FMC approval email.

SIGN-UP: Complete the paperwork that your service provider requires. After everything is in order, the service provider will submit the paperwork to FMC. Once FMC pays the invoice, the equipment provider will release the equipment and services to FMC.

| | Dharma | MarketLink | MerchantSource® | TSYS |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Equipment | PAX S90 Wireless Terminal with internal printer | Mobile Market+ App, Bluetooth Printer, Card Reader and a Smart Device (iPhone 5c or iPad) | First Data FD410 GPRS Wireless Terminal | ingenico iWL255 Wireless Terminal with internal printer |
| Contract Length | Month-to-month | | | Month-to-month |
| Cancellation Fee | | | | none |
| Manufacturer's Warranty | | | | Manufacturer's Warranty |
| Liability | | | | 100 liability for an month |



Farmers Market Coalition's
Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Sign Up Days:

- FMC sends the FNS numbers of applicants to FNS staff weekly (or as needed) so that FNS can confirm that their information is correct, and that their account is in good standing. If an FNS Regional staff member emails a list of newly authorized markets and farmers from their sign-up day to ebt@farmersmarketcoalition.org directly, we can skip the step of FNS confirmation and get those applicants approved within the same day.
- If you will have a laptop with wireless connection available onsite at the sign up day for newly approved markets and farmers markets to complete the FMC Equipment Program Application, ***alert FMC at least two weeks beforehand***, so we can have staff on hand to be receiving new FNS numbers and approving applications immediately. This option will only be possible on weekdays.



Farmers Market Coalition's
Free SNAP EBT Equipment Program

Contacts and Links:

Email: ebt@farmersmarketcoalition.org

[FMCToolbox.org](https://www.fmc.org/fmc-toolbox) to apply

bit.ly/FreeEBT for more info on the program

bit.ly/ProviderGuide for more info on service providers

[Farmersmarketcoalition.org](https://www.farmersmarketcoalition.org)

Mae Carroll

EBT Program Associate

Farmers Market Coalition

mae@farmersmarketcoalition.org

(202) 796-8539

Jen Cheek

Executive Director

Farmers Market Coalition

jen@farmersmarketcoalition.org

(313) 303 6244