

## IN THE NEWS: *CalFresh Emergency Allotments End*

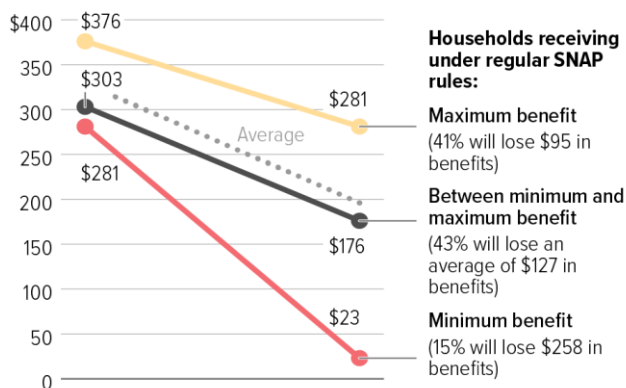
Since March of 2020, CalFresh (food stamp) recipients have been receiving an extra benefit every month known as Emergency Allotments, which increased their benefits to the maximum amount allowable for their household size. CalFresh recipients in California received their last Emergency Allotment on March 26, 2023 as decided in the omnibus bill in late 2022.

The ending of these Emergency Allotments will impact the 5 million people currently on CalFresh, which is about 3 million households. Every CalFresh household will lose at least \$95 per month, with the average household losing about \$200 per month. This represents a loss of \$500 million in food benefits per month statewide, or about \$30 million per month here in Orange County.

Second Harvest is still serving more individuals per month than we were pre-pandemic, and food banks will not be able to fill the need gap created by the loss of these benefits. Especially now with the high cost of groceries and struggling California economy, the end of the Emergency Allotments will only increase hunger and hardship throughout the state.

**LEARN MORE:** [Many OC families reaching “food cliff” as pandemic assistance with buying food ends \(OC Register\)](#)

### Losses Will Vary Across Households, But Average 1-Person Household Will Lose \$132 When SNAP Emergency Allotments End



Note: Figures may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Estimates based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP Household Characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values

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## BEYOND POLICY: *OCSSA Resource Fair Event Recap*

On Saturday, March 25, Second Harvest Food Bank and other local organizations participated in a Community Resources and Health Fair in Santa Ana hosted by OC Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento and the County of Orange Social Services Agency. Our CEO, Claudia Bonilla Keller, spoke about National Nutrition Month and how our Food Bank is making nutrition more accessible in the communities we serve.

The OC Hunger Alliance (Second Harvest, Community Action Partnership of Orange County & Abound Food Care) supplied food for a community food distribution, and OCSSA assisted community members with signing up for community services, including CalFresh benefits. It was great to see government and nonprofit partners working together for a community in need.



**ENGAGE:** Tag your elected officials on social media and let them know the end of CalFresh Emergency Allotments are going to increase hardship in Orange County.

### ON THE CALENDAR:

**April 14 – Federal Budget Deadline**