California State University, Long Beach

CalFresh Application Process

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
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About CalFresh

Formerly known as "food stamps," CalFresh is the name of the USDA-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the state of California. CalFresh provides eligible students with up to $250 per month. Recipients access their CalFresh benefits using an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.

Beach CalFresh Outreach

The Beach CalFresh Outreach Team is here to support CSULB students through the CalFresh process. This includes pre-screening for eligibility, application and document verification submission, support with mid-year and yearly recertification process, on campus and off-campus referrals, and facilitation with county case related communication.
Interested in CalFresh?

Interested in signing-up for CalFresh or have questions? Beach CalFresh Outreach is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the CalFresh process.

Schedule an appointment using our appointment center. Appointments are held virtually through Microsoft Teams. Additionally, students can stop by our office to speak to someone in-person.

Schedule an appointment with a CalFresh Assister today!

Office Location
University Student Union (USU) 112

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00AM - 5:00PM

Contact Information
562-317-1492
calfresh@csulb.edu
csulb.edu/calfresh
CalFresh Student Eligibility

1. Student must be between 18 - 49 years old AND
2. Must be currently enrolled in 6 units or more AND
3. Must also meet one of the following:
   - Employed or self-employed at least 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month
   - Awarded federal/state work study (per Financial Aid package)
   - Awarded Cal Grant A or B (per Financial Aid package)
   - Participate in a Local Educational Program that Increases Employability (LPIE)
   - Single parent or guardian of children under the age of 12

**Temporary Expanded Student Eligibilities during COVID**

1. $0 Expected Family Contributions (EFC) as defined by financial aid package
2. Eligible for Work Study

Additionally, students must be within the gross monthly income limits to qualify for CalFresh.

*Benefits are awarded on a sliding scale*

*Household is defined as people who live together AND buy and prepare food together.*
Documents Required for Verification

After your complete your application, you will be asked to submit documents to verify the information provided on the application.

**Documents Required:**

- A copy of your ID
- Most current Class Schedule
- Financial Aid Documents, Income Verification, and Expenses

**Remember, your application can't be approved until you submit proof.**

Based on your answers, you will need:

- **A copy of your ID**
  Examples include driver's licenses, ID cards, passports, or birth certificates/verifications (for children).

- **All pay stubs from the last 30 days**
  If you are paid in cash, you can submit a letter from your employer.

- **A copy of your financial aid award letter**
  This helps the county understand your financial situation.
  If you are eligible for work study, include your Verification of Work Study Approval letter.

**A copy of your class schedule**
This helps the county verify your enrollment status.

**Attach proof of your $0 EFC (Expected Family Contribution)**
You can prove this with a financial aid offer letter from your school or your SAR (Student Aid Report). You can also prove it with a letter from CSAC (California Student Aid Commission).

**Submit as much proof as you can before your interview.** It will reduce back and forth during the application process.

We will include any proof you submit in the next two hours with your application. If you need more time, you can submit proof on this website, by mail, or at your county office any time in the next 30 days.

**Submit proof here**

**Take pictures with my phone**
Documents Required for Verification

Proof of Identification
Only ONE required
- A U.S. Issued Driver’s License
- Birth Certificate
- A U.S. Issued Passport

Proof of Income
- Paystub
- Job Offer Letter
- Loss of Income Statement

Proof of Expenses
- Rental Expenses: Receipt from Landlord, Sworn Statement, Lease Agreement
- Utility Expenses: Water, Cooling, Heating, Phone, Sewage
Accessing Course Schedule Documents

Course Schedule with number of units currently taking

Access Student Center

1. Microsoft
   Sign in
   Email, phone, or Skype
   No account? Create one!
   Can’t access your account?
   Back  Next

2. Student Center
   (MyCSULB)

Obtaining Your Course Schedule

3. Weekly Schedule
   Select Weekly Schedule

4. List View
   Click on list view

5. Select current term
   Select the term you are applying for.
   Screenshot/Print schedule with units listed

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Accessing Financial Aid Documents

Access Student Center

1. Go to Finances
   - Click on view financial aid

2. Select your aid year
   - According to the term currently enrolled in

3. Award Package
   - Screenshot award for academic year

Student Center
(MyCSULB)

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Accessing Proof of Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)

Only required for students with an EFC of $0

1. **Access Student Center**
   - Microsoft
   - Sign in
     - Email, phone, or Skype
     - No account? Create one!
     - Can't access your account?
   - Back Next

2. **Student Center**
   - (MyCSULB)

3. **Go to Finances**
   - Click on view financial aid

4. **Select your aid year**
   - According to the term currently enrolled in
   - Select the aid year you wish to view

5. **Select "Cost of attendance summary"**
   - Cost of Attendance Summary

6. **Screenshot EFC**
   - Cost of Attendance Summary
   - Financial Aid Year 2022-2023
   - Click on the Award Period to view detailed award information.
   - Estimated Family Contribution
   - Total Aid
Submitting Documents

Go to www.getcalfresh.org/docs

1

Securely send documents to your county.
You can upload them from your computer or take a picture using your smartphone’s camera.

What’s your ZIP code?
If where you stay changes regularly, provide the zip code of where you usually buy groceries.

Select my county instead

Continue →

2

Before starting, we need to match your documents to your case.

These documents will be sent to Los Angeles County. Wrong county?

What is your first name?

What is your last name?

I prefer a different first name

When were you born?
Month (mm)
Day (dd)
Year (yyyy)

3

What is your social security number?
Recommended but not required.

What is your phone number?
We will text message you if we have any problems opening your documents.

What’s the best e-mail address for you?

Continue →
Preparing for the Interview

Once you submit a CalFresh application and provide the necessary documents, your county will call you for an interview. Interviews are held Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM. Student can expect a phone call from their county within the 30-day application period. The county may call for an unknown or blocked phone number.

The purpose of the interview is for you to speak with a CalFresh representative and gain additional knowledge about the CalFresh program. Additionally, the county worker will verify your eligibilities for CalFresh and request additional documentation if necessary.

Beach CalFresh Outreach offers assistance for students wanting additional support in preparing for the interview with the county.
County Customer Service Numbers

You do not need to wait for the county to call you in order to complete the interview process. You may call your county directly to set up an interview once you have submitted your application.

If you are unable to have your interview at the time your county chooses, or you miss your interview, you can call your county directly to ensure you have your interview within 30 days of completing your application.

**Los Angeles County**  
(310) 258-7400

**Orange County**  
(800) 281-9799

**Fresno County**  
(855) 832-8082

**Riverside County**  
(877) 410-8827

**Santa Barbara County**  
(805) 681-4401

**San Diego County**  
(866) 262-9881

*For Additional Counties, visit:  
www.getcalfresh.org/contact*
Create Your Online Account!

Create your online portal to keep track of any updates for your application:
If you are in LA County, create account and link case here - [https://benefitscal.com/](https://benefitscal.com/)

If you are in Orange County, create account and link case here - [www.mybenefitscalwin.org](http://www.mybenefitscalwin.org)

Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino County

1. Visit BenefitsCal.com and Create an Account

2. Link your CalFresh case to your Account

3. Enter the following information to link your existing CalFresh case

Orange, Fresno, Santa Barbara County

1. Visit mybenefitscalwin.org and Create an Account

2. Select your county
   - Fresno
   - Orange
   - Santa Barbara

3. Complete your information and link your account
HOW TO USE YOUR CALFRESH BENEFITS

EBT Card
CalFresh benefits are issued on an EBT card that is similar to a debit card.

When Will I Get My EBT Card?
Approved applicants can expect to receive their EBT card and pin number in two separate mailed letters. If you do not receive your EBT card, contact 877-328-9677 for EBT Card services.

When Are My Benefits Loaded?
CalFresh recipients can expect to receive their monthly benefits between the 1st-10th of each month.

The last digit of your case number reflects the day you receive your monthly benefits.

WHAT CAN EBT BE USED FOR?

CAN BE USED FOR:
• Bread and Cereals
• Fruits and Vegetables
• Meat, Fish, and Poultry
• Dairy products
• Seeds for plant produce

CANNOT BE USED FOR:
• Beer, Wine, Liquor, or Tobacco
• Pet Food
• Soaps, Toilet Paper
• Household Items
• Vitamins and Medicine
• Hot Foods
WHERE CAN YOU USE EBT BENEFITS?

GROCERY STORES

EBT STORE LOCATOR
Can be used to find local markets and stores that accept EBT benefits.
Click Here to Search for Locations

ONLINE GROCERY RETAILERS
Find retailers that allow you to spend your EBT benefits online for groceries.
Click Here to Learn More!

NORTHGATE MARKET MÁS FRESCO
Northgate Gonzalez Market Mas Fresco program offers CalFresh recipients $2-4 rebate dollars when they use their EBT benefits to buy fruits and vegetables.
Enroll: masfresco.org

FARMERS' MARKETS

FARMERS' MARKET LOCATOR
Find local farmer's markets that accept CalFresh EBT benefits. Provide your EBT card to the Market Manager to gain vouchers for groceries.
Click Here to Search for Locations

MARKET MATCH
Market Match provides matching funds (up to $10) when shopping at Farmers' Markets so you can buy even more fruits and vegetables.
Click Here to Search for Locations

RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM
The RMP is a program that gives certain people that are at a high risk for chronic the option to use their CalFresh Food benefits to buy prepared meals at approved participating restaurant vendors. The RMP is available to older adults aged 60 or older, people with disabilities, and homeless persons, and their spouses. Learn more at: https://www.cdss.ca.gov/rmp

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If approved for CalFresh, you will have to complete a renewal process 6 months from your initial application month and again at the 1 year mark.

Email calfresh@csulb.edu if you need assistance completing your renewal and the Beach CalFresh team will reach out to schedule an appointment.

SAR-7 Periodic Report

The SAR-7 is the renewal process CalFresh recipients need to complete after 6 months of receiving CalFresh. Your county will mail you documents to complete, OR, students can log on to their county CalFresh portal to complete the SAR-7 electronically.

The SAR-7 will ask you to report any changes that may have happened in the last 6 months. Documentation will be asked to confirm reported changes. Changes may include a change of residency, household size, income and expenses, and any additional changes you may need to report.

Yearly Renewal

Every year, you will also have to complete a yearly renewal process. Your county will mail you documents to complete the yearly renewal or students can choose to complete the recertification online.

You will be asked to report any changes that may have happened since you last reported to the county. Changes may include a change of residency, household size, income and expenses, and any additional changes you may need to report. Your county will call for an interview to review the information imported.
SAR-7 Periodic Report & Renewal Process

How To Submit SAR-7 and Renewals

It is recommended to submit your SAR-7 Periodic Report and Yearly Renewals using the benefiscal.com or mybenefiscalwin.org website. **DO NOT** complete the SAR-7 through the getcalfresh.org link, that you may receive via email, as it will not be reported to your county.

Renewal Calendar

![Recertification Dates](image-url)

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<th>RENEWALS</th>
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<td>June 5th</td>
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Beach CalFresh Outreach

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Email calfresh@csulb.edu
Website csulb.edu/calfresh

@basicneedscsulb
@basicneedscsulb
CSULB Basic Needs
CalFresh CSULB