

SNAP Partner Meeting

January 25, 2024

Entrance [music](#)

SNAP Updates and Announcements

Heather Miles

Introduction

Meorah Solar

SNAP Program Co-Manager

Avid Reader, Eugenian, Gardener,
Single Mother, Writer, Black Cis
Woman, Analyzer, Spreadsheet
Lover, Hiker, Analog Girl, Feivel's
Adventure Buddy, Gemini, Traveler,
Nana, Teen Mother, Norwegian,
Sister, Dancer, U of O Alumni,
Former SNAP Participant, First
Family Homeowner, Middle Child,
Introvert, Lover of Laughter, Gen
Xer, Music Lover, Mixed Race, Fierce
Friend, Learner, Speaker Upper,
Nature Wanderer, Lover of Words

Beneficiary of a loving and
supportive community and family
who taught me to love myself; see my
true, unlabeled potential; and
brought many opportunities my way.



Meorah Solar

SNAP Program Co-Manager

- SNAP Replacement
- Preventing benefit fraud and skimming

**Additional
information**

ODHS Website

Spanish Transcreated Site

Adriana Taylor

Tribal Consultation

Soren Metzger

Dwight Palmer

Tribal Consultation Policy

Self-Sufficiency Programs
SNAP Partner Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 2024

*Soren Metzger,
ODHS Office of Tribal Affairs
Tribal Consultation and Operations
Manager*

State of Oregon

Oregon Department of Human Services
Tribal Affairs

The State of Oregon honors Tribal sovereignty and recognizes the right of Tribes of Oregon to self-determination and self-governance.

Tribal Sovereignty

The inherent authority of Indigenous Tribes to govern themselves within the borders of the United States of America. The U.S. federal government recognizes tribal nations as "domestic dependent nations" and has established a number of laws attempting to clarify the relationship between the federal, state, and tribal governments. (OHA 2023)

Role of Tribal Affairs

The Office of Tribal Affairs works with ODHS leaders and staff to uphold the government-to-government relationship with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon:

- Advocate and guide ODHS Leaders on the development of Tribal appropriate programming, services, and policies.
- Provide tools and training on Tribal engagement and history.
- Coordinates Tribal governmental engagement and consultation.

Oregon Law – Senate Bill 770 (2001)

ORS 182.162 to 182.168

Applies to all state agencies:

- Policy on Tribal consultation
- Identify program leaders and staff who work with Tribes
- Process to notify Tribes
- Communication with Tribes
- Government-to-government relationships
- Training for program and staff
- Annual report

Tribal Consultation Policy

Adopted - October 6, 2023

Operational for ODHS - January 1, 2024

*Consultation is offered ahead of Rule Advisory Committees as required in the policy for permanent rules with a significant, specific or disproportionate impact to Tribes that go into effect after June 1, 2024.

What is Tribal consultation?

Tribal consultation is a formal process agreed to by the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon, the Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Human Services.

At the earliest possible point in the process of program development, implementation planning, policy changes, funding, or other requirements – ODHS needs to ask how will this impact Tribes?

Consultation Process

Oregon Department of Human Services

Tribal Affairs

"Critical Event" is identified by ODHS programs or Tribes;

Office of Tribal Affairs assists ODHS Programs and Tribes with notice;

Official "Dear Tribal Leader Letter" is sent;

Tribes respond with consultation request or comments;

Office of Tribal Affairs convenes ODHS Directors and Tribes;

Office of Tribal Affairs collects and disseminates reports on outcomes.

Note: At least initially, this process may result in standard program timelines needing to slow down for effective Tribal consultation to occur.

ODHS/OHA Tribal Consultation and Urban Indian Health Program Confer Policy

Examples of Critical Events include:

- State Plan Amendments,
- Waiver requests or renewals,
- Program activities impacting Tribal members,
- Policy development impacting Tribal members,
- Data collection and reporting activities impacting Tribes,
- Funding or budget development impacting Tribes,
- Rulemaking or any other event with significant, specific, and disproportionate impact to Tribes.

ODHS/OHA Tribal Consultation and Urban Indian Health Program Confer Policy

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More Information

- *ODHS Webpage Updates (coming soon)*
- *Tribal Consultation Fact Sheet*

For questions contact:

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*Joanna Wright, Process Improvement Analyst and Tribal Liaison
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*Dwight Palmer, OEMS Service Equity Manager
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Summer EBT

Stephanie Cooke & Mariya Klimenko

Summer EBT

Who is eligible for Summer EBT?

School-age children who meet income requirements may be eligible for Summer EBT. Oregon estimates 294,000 children are likely eligible for the program. Most will be automatically approved to receive the food benefits without a parent or guardian needing to take any action. Automatic approval may happen through direct certification because they participate in other public assistance programs or are categorically eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. Others who can't be automatically certified will need to apply.

How much is the Summer EBT food benefit?

Each eligible student will receive \$120 (\$40 per month) for the summer period for a total estimated benefit issuance of \$35,280,000 million per year.

Summer EBT

Summer EBT for children was created as a permanent, nationwide program by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023. The purpose of the program is to reduce summer hunger by providing families with food benefits similar to SNAP to feed children when school is not in session. This year is the first states can start participating but there are conditions that Oregon must meet first.

Summer EBT

Oregon has participated in similar federal pilot programs or temporary pandemic-era programs in recent years. Summer EBT is a new, slightly different program.

Oregon submitted a Letter of Intent to the USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) in late December 2023 that outlines the issues Oregon must quickly address to offer the program in 2024.

What does Oregon need to do to offer Summer EBT in 2024?

- New data sharing, application and eligibility systems.
- Staff training for benefit delivery.
- Federal waivers and funding from the Oregon State Legislature within a tight timeline

Where are we now?

- Currently, we await decisions from FNS and the Oregon State Legislature.
- ODHS is working with the Oregon Department of Education to design the eligibility and delivery systems that must be in place to issue Summer EBT to qualifying, school-age children.

Contact Information

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