

## **Extra Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Benefits for COVID-19 Will End March 2023**

**January 24, 2023**

**The NC Department of Health and Human Services announced the extra Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefits for COVID-19 public health emergency (emergency allotments) will terminate effective February 28, 2023, resulting in FNS pre-pandemic entitled benefits effective March 2023.**

**We are letting you know that your benefits will decrease.**

**Why are your benefits decreasing?**

**FNS benefits have been temporarily increased because of the COVID-19 public health emergency (emergency allotments). This means you have been getting more benefits on your EBT card each month than normally would to help meet emergency needs during the pandemic. The federal government will be ending FNS emergency allotments, with February 2023 being the final month for emergency allotments.**

**As a result, your benefits will go back to pre-pandemic, regular monthly benefit amounts starting March 2023. Neither the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services nor the local social services have control over this change. The reduction of benefits related to the emergency allotment ending is not subject to fair hearings.**

**FNS recipients can view their regular monthly FNS benefit amount and their emergency allotment online at [www.ebtedge.com](http://www.ebtedge.com). Regular monthly FNS benefits are issued between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of every month based on the last digit of the recipient's SSN, while emergency allotments are issued on or after the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month. Again, February 2023 will be the final month emergency allotments are issued.**

**There are three ways to check your balance and transaction history.**

- **Visit [www.ebtedge.com](http://www.ebtedge.com). Click on More information under the EBT cardholder. You will be prompted to login and/r register your account.**
- **Download and use the EBT Edge mobile app (can be downloaded on Google Play or Apple Store)**
- **Contact the North Carolina EBT Call Center at 1-888-622-7328 and follow prompts.**

**For more information on FNS eligibility and benefits, please visit our Food & Nutrition Services website ([www.ncdhhs.gov/fns](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/fns))**