
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2357 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY PASHINSKI, KINSEY, HOHENSTEIN, HILL-EVANS, GIRAL,
SCHLOSSBERG, BURGOS, SANCHEZ, MERSKI, PARKER, KINKEAD, MAYES,
KENYATTA, HARKINS, GUENST, KHAN, CONKLIN, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ AND
SHUSTERMAN, MAY 30, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
MAY 30, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, establishing the Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program
3 and the Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program Account; and making
4 an appropriation.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 3 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes
8 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 110

10 PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BUCKS PROGRAM

11 Sec.

12 11001. Scope of chapter.

13 11002. Declaration of purpose.

14 11003. Definitions.

15 11004. Establishment of program.

16 11005. Administration of program.

17 11006. Establishment of account.

1 11007. Use of available money for program.

2 11008. Regulations.

3 § 11001. Scope of chapter.

4 This chapter relates to the Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program.

5 § 11002. Declaration of purpose.

6 The General Assembly finds and declares that the purpose of
7 this chapter is to establish the Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program
8 as a benefit incentive program for Supplemental Nutrition
9 Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to purchase eligible fruits
10 and vegetables at eligible food retailers.

11 § 11003. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
13 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Account." The Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program Account
16 established under section 11006(a) (relating to establishment of
17 account).

18 "Benefit incentive." The financial or benefit reward for a
19 SNAP recipient when the SNAP recipient purchases an eligible
20 fruit or vegetable at an eligible food retailer as determined by
21 the grantee.

22 "Eligible food retailer." A SNAP-authorized site or food
23 vendor. The term may include a farmer's market, corner store,
24 grocery store or supermarket that redeems SNAP benefits.

25 "Eligible fruit or vegetable." A fruit or vegetable that
26 meets the criteria specified in the definition of "food" in 7
27 U.S.C. § 2012(k) (relating to definitions). The term may include
28 a fruit or vegetable whether fresh, canned, dried or frozen
29 whole or cut without added sugars, fats, oils or salt.

30 "Grantee." A Pennsylvania nonprofit organization that

1 qualifies for an exemption from taxation under 26 U.S.C. §
2 501(c)(3) (relating to exemption from tax on corporations,
3 certain trusts, etc.) selected by the department to administer
4 the program under section 11005(b) (relating to administration
5 of program).

6 "Program." The Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program established
7 under section 11004 (relating to establishment of program).

8 "SNAP." The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
9 established under 7 U.S.C. Ch. 51 (relating to Supplemental
10 Nutrition Assistance Program).

11 § 11004. Establishment of program.

12 The Pennsylvania Food Bucks Program is established within the
13 department.

14 § 11005. Administration of program.

15 (a) Administration.--The grantee selected by the department
16 under subsection (b) shall administer the program for a period
17 of no less than two years.

18 (b) Selection of grantee.--The department shall develop
19 eligibility criteria and an application process to select a
20 grantee, who shall meet all of the following criteria:

21 (1) Has demonstrated success in administering healthy
22 food incentive programming.

23 (2) Is able to apply for a Federal large-scale project
24 grant under the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public
25 Law 115-334, 132 Stat. 4490) through the Gus Schumacher
26 Nutrition Incentive Program.

27 (c) Program guidelines.--The grantee, in conjunction with
28 the department, shall develop and establish program standards
29 and incentive criteria for the program, including all of the
30 following requirements:

1 (1) The mechanism for delivering benefit incentives
2 under the program shall be determined by the grantee in
3 consultation with eligible food retailers.

4 (2) The grantee shall provide a benefit incentive of no
5 less than 40¢ to a SNAP recipient for every \$1 of SNAP
6 benefits redeemed by the SNAP recipient on eligible fruits or
7 vegetables at eligible food retailers.

8 (d) Program evaluation.--The grantee shall evaluate the
9 program on a biennial basis and post a report with the findings
10 of the evaluation on a publicly accessible Internet website and
11 submit the report to the department and the General Assembly.
12 The grantee shall include all of the following information in
13 the report:

14 (1) The amount of money used for benefit incentives.

15 (2) The geographic distribution and amount of money
16 dispersed at the county level.

17 (3) A list of each participating eligible food retailer.
18 § 11006. Establishment of account.

19 (a) Establishment of account.--The Pennsylvania Food Bucks
20 Program Account is established as a restricted account in the
21 General Fund and shall be used exclusively for the program in
22 accordance with this chapter. Money in the account is
23 appropriated on a continuing basis to the department for the
24 purposes of this chapter.

25 (b) Supplements to account.--In addition to money
26 appropriated to the department for the program, the department
27 may also accept gifts, donations, legacies and other revenues,
28 including Federal appropriations, for deposit into the account.

29 § 11007. Use of available money for program.

30 The grantee shall use money available for the program for the

1 following purposes:

2 (1) Distributing money to partner organizations or
3 directly to SNAP recipients for purchasing eligible fruits or
4 vegetables at eligible food retailers.

5 (2) Implementing and evaluating the program. The grantee
6 may only use 40% of the available money for the program in a
7 fiscal year for the purpose specified under this paragraph.

8 (3) Matching contributions for additional Federal, local
9 or private sources, including money or in-kind contributions.

10 § 11008. Regulations.

11 The department may promulgate regulations to implement this
12 chapter.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 120 days.