

COVID-19 Announcement

In response to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the declaration of a State disaster, **Temporary Assistance** applications and recertifications can be submitted by mail (instead of coming to a center) or online at <https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/NewAccountCreation!input.nysmybw> by creating a new account. *Eligibility Interviews* and Recertification Interviews may be interviewed by phone. The department has made every effort to contact anyone with a scheduled appointment and will have that interview conducted on the same date and time by telephone.

Consumers applying for emergencies may be interviewed by phone, however they will still need to provide documentation of the emergency need so that the department can make an accurate assessment and determine the assistance necessary to meet the need.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applications and recertifications can be submitted electronically at [mybenefits.ny.gov](https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov) or by mail (instead of coming to a center). SNAP application and recertification interviews will be done by phone.

Additionally, SNAP benefits can be used for online grocery purchases. Current participating retailers include Amazon, Walmart and ShopRite. Amazon is available statewide; Walmart and ShopRite participate in specific zip codes. Walmart, depending on specific locations, offers delivery, pick-up or both. Clients can enter zip code on the Walmart or ShopRite websites to find availability.