

February 25, 2019

Dear Career Services Providers:

We are writing to you to share an important update about the issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for the month of March 2019.

As you will remember, the State and City worked closely together to issue February SNAP benefits early, in order to address challenges resulting from this year's temporary federal government shutdown. This early issuance meant some clients would have a gap of over a month in between the last issuance in January and the next, in March.

To ensure the State and City remain in compliance with relevant federal laws and rules regarding benefits issuance dates and to ensure that the gap between benefits issuance dates is as small as possible, some SNAP recipients will see their March benefits issued early, as well. This means that March 2019 SNAP benefits will be issued between March 1st and March 7th, 2019.

This is a compressed seven-day schedule, rather than the usual 14-day schedule. This change will not affect other SNAP case processing timelines and will not affect Cash Assistance benefits, which continue to be issued on their normal schedule. We are advising SNAP recipients to monitor their accounts carefully. At this time, we have not been made aware of any changes to the April 2019 benefits delivery schedule.

We ask that you remind your clients or constituents that in New York City, SNAP recipients can manage their accounts by downloading our [ACCESS HRA](http://www.nyc.gov/accesshra) app or by going online to www.nyc.gov/accesshra. If they have additional questions, we ask that they call our InfoLine at 718-557-1399.

We also encourage you, and your clients or constituents, to follow us on social media, specifically on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, which are all channels on which we post important information about benefits access in a timely fashion. Checking our accounts on these platforms is generally the fastest and easiest way to remain up-to-date.

Under the leadership of Mayor de Blasio and Commissioner Banks, we at DSS continue to advocate on behalf of all New Yorkers facing poverty and homelessness. On behalf of our 16,000-strong workforce, we thank you for the incredibly important work you do every day to advocate on behalf of your constituents, to support them in their times of need, and for your leadership on important issues facing our city.

Sincerely,

Sarah Haas