



THE MCBOSS BUZZ



What's New – What's Now – What's Happening In addition, how it affects you!

Coronavirus SNAP and WFNJ Updates

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Updates

SNAP Recertification Extension

- If your case is due to be recertified in March, April or May and you are unable to get your paperwork in or complete your interview, your case will not be closed. You will receive your benefits on the usual day. Your case has been granted a six-month extension from the date your recertification is due. More information will follow on your new recertification date. In the meantime, you will continue to receive SNAP benefits.

SNAP Work Activities

- During the current public health crisis, your case will not be closed if you are unable to participate in a work activity.

Extra SNAP Benefit

- On Sunday, March 29, eligible SNAP recipients received an extra SNAP benefit. The amount you received is the difference between your regular SNAP benefit and the maximum benefit for your family size. If you already receive the maximum benefit, you will not be eligible for this extra payment. You will be able to spend this benefit beyond March.
- For example, a family of one, the maximum benefit is \$194 per month. If your regular benefit for March is \$16, your extra benefit is \$178. This extra benefit will be added directly to your Families First EBT card.
- Remember, this is an extra SNAP benefit being made available to help you buy food in this public health crisis. You will receive your April SNAP benefits at your regular time, which also will be at the maximum level.

People in Household	Maximum Monthly Allotment
1	\$194
2	\$355
3	\$509
4	\$646
5	\$768
6	\$921
Each additional person	+\$146



- If you want to check your balance before you go to the grocery store, please visit www.NJFamiliesFirst.com where you can view your current card balance and transaction history, or at some ATMs. You also can call customer service at 1-800-997-3333.

Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Updates

WFNJ Recertification Extension

- If your case is due in March or April to be recertified, the deadline has been extended 60 days. More information will follow on your new recertification date. In the meantime, you will continue to receive WFNJ benefits.

WFNJ Work Activities

- During the current public health crisis, your case will not be closed if you are unable to participate in a work activity. This includes if you are a General Assistance (GA) client completing the 28-day work activity while your case is being reviewed.

You do not need to come into the office to apply, renew or provide documentation for benefits.

Send information or verification to MCBOSS via fax at (609) 394-6638, email at mcboss@mcboss.org or look for the drop box located at the front door of MCBOSS located at 200 Woolverton Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08650. For more information on how to apply or receive your benefits during this COVID-19 Pandemic call MCBOSS at 609-989-4320.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Consumer Information-All Programs

(609) 989-4320

Adult Protective Services &

Adult Social Services

(609) 989-4346 or (609) 989-4347

Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator

(609) 656-6301

Child Support-General Information

1-(877) NJKIDS1 (1-877-655-4371)

Emergency Assistance, Family Planning &

Early Periodic Screening and Treatment Programs

(609) 989-4451

Homeless Hotline

(609) 989-4320

After Hours Dial "211"

Fraud Tip Line

(609) 989-4400

Work First NJ Case Management Unit

(609) 989-6248

Toll Free Information-All Programs

1-(800) 564-1595

Fax (609) 394-6638

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-MAIL INQUIRY:

Email inquiries may be directed to
mcboss@mcboss.org

ADDRESS:

Mercer County Board of Social Services
200 Woolverton Street
P.O. Box 1450
Trenton, NJ 08650-2099

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday and Wednesday through Friday:

8:30am - 4:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am - 8:30pm

NEW JERSEY EBT CARD WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.EBT.ACS-INC.COM](http://www.ebt.acs-inc.com)

NEED TO CONTACT YOUR HMO?

AMERIGROUP 1 (800) 600-4441,

UNITED HEALTHCARE 1 (800) 941-4647,

HORIZON 1 (877) 765-4325,

WELLCARE 1 (888) 453-3534

SPRING 2020 Holiday Schedule

MCBOSS will be closed on the following business days:



- April 10 – Good Friday
- May 22 – Memorial Day
- July 4 – Independence Day

Early Closures:

The Mercer County Board of Social Services Agency will **CLOSE** at **4:30pm** on **Tuesday, June 30, 2020**. Extended hours will resume on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 and we will be open until 8:30pm.

Coronavirus Stress and Coping Need Help? Know Someone Who Does?

The outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) is stressful for everyone. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations.

Stress during an infectious disease outbreak can include:

- Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones
- Worsening of chronic health problems or physical reactions such as headaches, body pains, stomach problems and skin rashes
- Changes in appetite, energy, and activity levels
- Difficulty sleeping or concentrating
- Anger or short-temper
- Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

Coping with stress will make you and the people you care about stronger. Talking to others and staying connected with friends and family can help reduce anxiety and make people feel more in control.

The NJ Mental Health Cares Help Line offers telephone counseling, emotional support, information and assistance in helping to get behavioral health services needed by you or a loved one. The NJ Mental Health Cares Help Line is also now offering help to people dealing with anxiety and worry related to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

For assistance or more information call the NJ Mental Health Cares Help Line toll-free confidential number: **1-866-202-HELP (4357)**. All calls will be answered from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week by live trained specialists. The trained specialists answering these phones can help callers take care of their mental health during this difficult time.

People with preexisting mental health conditions should continue with their treatment and be aware of new or worsening symptoms. If you, or someone you care about are feeling overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression or anxiety contact:

NJ Mental Health Cares: **1-866-202-HELP (4357)**

NJ211: **1-800-962-1253**

National Disaster Distress Helpline: **1-800-985-5990**

New Jersey Domestic Violence Hotline: **1-800-572-SAFE (7233)**

National Domestic Violence Hotline: **1-800-799-7233**

Mercer County Board of Social Services
NEW Website www.mcboss.org

Go to www.mcboss.org you will find links with information about TANF, GA, SNAP, Child Support, Medicaid and more. Also the following information may be found; applying for benefits on-line, updating a case, reporting a change on your case! Check our **website** regularly for the latest Coronavirus (COVID-19) information and how it may affect your case.

Mercer County Board of Social Services Spring 2020