

Action Request Transmittal Aging and People with Disabilities



Jane-ellen Weidanz

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Number: APD-AR-24-016

Issue date: 4/26/2024

Topic: Food Benefits

Due date:

Subject: Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP)

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: Types A and B | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Action required:

Eligibility data for the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP) was pulled from CMS, FSMIS, MMIS, and IE ONE on April 1, 2024. To be eligible for the program, seniors must meet all the following eligibility criteria:

- Be 62 years old as of April 1, 2024;
- Be receiving Medicaid and/or SNAP benefits on April 1, 2024;
- Have monthly income less than \$1,732 for an individual or \$2,351 for a couple.
- Be living in a situation where food is not provided for them.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) continues to share the day-to-day operation of the program with APD. ODHS will pull the data and send the information to OHA. OHA sends out invitation letters, and APD's Community Services & Supports Unit (CSSU) processes the Response Forms.

Qualified older adults will be mailed their invitation letter the week of April 15 and must respond that they would like to receive vouchers by May 15. The benefit amount is \$32 per person in the form of eight \$4 vouchers.

Response options:

There are two ways interested, eligible older adults can respond:

- 1.) Mail the signed paper Response Card included with their invitation directly to CSSU. This must be postmarked by May 15
- 2.) Respond online by entering their unique identification code into a secure Senior Response Webform which is available at SeniorFarmDirect.Oregon.gov. This assigned code and instructions will be included on their invitation letter.

Participants are no longer given the option to turn in their Response Card at a local DHS Aging and People with Disabilities or Area Agency on Aging office. However, if response forms are dropped off at your office(s), please forward to CSSU by May 17.

Lori Watt
DHS – Community Services & Supports Unit
Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program
500 Summer St NE, E-12
Salem, OR 97301

The response method chosen will not affect the chances of being selected to receive benefits. However, the online webform has been the most reliable option to get responses in by the due date.

This year OHA anticipates being able to serve approximately 68,000 older adults. Please encourage interested individuals to respond by the May 15 deadline. If more responses are received than funding allows, OHA will randomly select recipients from the responses received.

Older adults who have questions about the program can contact the dedicated **Senior Farm Direct toll-free number: 1-866-299-3562**. OHA contracts with 211info to handle calls April – November. 211info is unavailable to access our database and will have no case specific information. If 211info is unable to assist an individual, the individual will be referred to their local ADRC or case manager/financial worker.

Older adults may spend their Farm Direct vouchers between June 1 and November 30, 2024 at authorized farm stands and farmers markets to purchase fresh fruit, vegetables and cut herbs. They may name an additional shopper to shop for them on their behalf. Any vouchers that are lost or stolen cannot be replaced.

Program instructions and eligibility requirements can be found on the Farm Direct website www.myoregonfarm.org. This website also includes a directory of participating farm stand and market locations where older adults can use their vouchers. The directory will be updated in May.

Reason for action:

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

If you have any questions about this action request, contact:

Contact(s): Lori Watt	
Phone: 503-945-6237	Fax:
Email: Lori.C.Watt@odhs.oregon.gov	