

CalFresh Outreach & Special Regulations for people who don't have a permanent home

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River City Food Bank





CalFresh definition of “homeless”

An individual is homeless if s/he:

- no fixed, regular place to sleep at night; or
- lives in a shelter, welfare hotel, half-way house; or
- is living for less than 90 days in someone else’s home; or
- lives somewhere that people do not usually live
 - Ex. a doorway, a lobby, a bus station, a hallway, a car, or a subway
- migrant/seasonal farm workers living in temporary housing

Homeless Youth

- Who are **not** living with their parents or under the control of an adult **can** receive CalFresh benefits on their own



Identity Verification

- No one should be denied benefits because they do not have a photo ID
- Things that can be used:
 - Work or school ID
 - ID for health benefits
 - Wage stub
 - Birth Certificate
 - Voter Registration Card
 - Collateral Contacts
 - Ex. Calling a shelter worker or employer who can confirm a persons identity



People who do not have a permanent home have all the same rights under CalFresh that other people do.

In addition, they also have some special rights.

Residency & Address Issues



- Household applies in the county in which they live
- County office can't require that the household have an address or mailing address
- Can have a mailing address in another county

Shelter residents

- **Can receive CalFresh even if they receive free meals there**
- **Do not have to have a place to cook or store to receive benefits**

Calculating Benefits: Shelter Deduction

- “Homeless Shelter Deduction” of \$143 if they pay (or expect to pay) for some shelter during the month
 - Do NOT need to provide verification
 - Higher shelter costs may be used if verification is provided
- If it is used then separate utility costs are not allowed (ex. phone deduction)

No quarterly reports

- If all household members are without a home

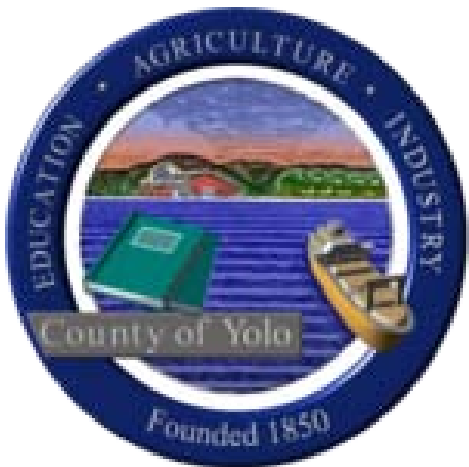


Additional help:

- Counties must have procedures to help homeless households in obtaining CalFresh benefits
 - Ex. Counties must help recipients get their EBT card



Homeless Households can have an ICT too



Homeless households can use their CalFresh at a few other places

- **Shelters and Soup Kitchens (those authorized by the USDA)**
 - can't make people who receive CalFresh pay for meals if others receive the meals for free
- **Restaurant Meals Program**
 - Alameda
 - Los Angeles
 - Sacramento
 - San Diego
 - San Francisco
 - San Luis Obispo
 - Santa Clara

CalFresh Outreach



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Questions?