

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

What is the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)?

TEFAP is a food distribution program run by the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. USDA buys food and ships it to Washington, DC. TEFAP (through other organizations) gives away food and allows individuals and families to meet their short-term food needs.

How does it work?

Food is usually given out by a middleman, such as a food bank or other nonprofit organization. However, certain people and low-income households can also receive food directly from TEFAP. The amount of food a family can receive is based on household income.

How does one apply?

- ▣ Apply through the DC Department of Health.
- ▣ Contact a local Food Distribution Program or a Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution site. *For a list of distribution site phone numbers, click on the link below.*

Contact Information

[Capital Area Food Bank](#)

645 Taylor Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017
Phone: (202) 526-5344
Fax: (202) 529-1767

DC Department of Health
Office of Nutrition Programs
Commodity Supplemental Food Program
825 North Capitol Street, NE
State Agency Office 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20002
Tel: (202) 442-5925
[Distribution site phone numbers](#)