

Iowa Department of Human Services

INFORMATION ON EXPEDITED SERVICE

Some households have the right to get their first month of food stamps by the fifth day after applying. This is called expedited service. If your household is in one of the situations below, then you may be eligible for expedited service.

1. YOUR GROSS MONTHLY INCOME IS UNDER \$150 AND YOU HAVE \$100 OR LESS NOW*

or

2. YOUR SHELTER COST (RENT, MORTGAGE, UTILITIES) IS MORE THAN YOUR MONTHLY GROSS INCOME AND THE MONEY YOU HAVE NOW*

3. YOU ARE A MIGRANT OR SEASONAL FARM WORKER, AND YOU GOT YOUR LAST PAYCHECK FROM YOUR OLD EMPLOYER BEFORE YOU APPLIED FOR FOOD STAMPS, AND YOU WON'T GET A PAYCHECK FOR \$25 OR MORE FROM A NEW EMPLOYER FOR AT LEAST 11 DAYS AFTER YOU APPLY FOR FOOD STAMPS, AND YOU HAVE \$100 OR LESS RIGHT NOW*

* MONEY YOU HAVE NOW INCLUDES MONEY YOU HAVE WITH YOU, AT HOME, IN THE BANK, OR IN OTHER FORMS WHICH YOU CAN GET EASILY. WE SUBTRACT YOUR MONTHLY INCOME FROM THE MONEY YOU HAVE TO DETERMINE IF YOU HAVE \$100 OR LESS.

If you are eligible for expedited service, you will pick up your food stamps at the Human Services office in the county where you live. If you get expedited service, some additional information and proof may be required to keep getting food stamps after the first month.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR EXPEDITED SERVICE

If you think you meet one of the situations listed above, you can contact your county office at any time after you apply and ask about expedited service. If you are told that your application is not being expedited and you disagree, you have the right to appeal being denied expedited service by requesting a hearing. You can make this request in writing or verbally. When you appeal, you can also ask for a meeting with the county office supervisor. This meeting must be held within two working days after you ask for the meeting. This meeting does not take the place of the appeal hearing, unless you decide the matter has been resolved. If you know you are moving out of the state soon and you ask for an appeal hearing, be sure to say you are leaving and when. If you do this, we will try to hold the hearing before you leave. You may have an attorney or any person you choose to represent you at the meeting or hearing.