

Energy Assistance and Food Assistance

To Receive Energy assistance contact:

Energy Services Inc
<http://esiwi.com/index>
1717 Taylor Ave
Racine, WI 53403
262- 633-6000

Energy Assistance Program Information for the upcoming season

<http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov/section.asp?linkid=118&locid=25>

Help with the Cost of Food

People often talk about receiving Food Stamps. In Wisconsin, the name of the program that issues funds for low-income people and families to purchase food is called FoodShare. People receiving this benefit use a Quest card (like a credit card) to make their purchases. The federal government also uses the acronym SNAP for the same program. If possible, please use the FoodShare name when requesting this benefit, or simply ask for help with paying for food.

Wisconsin FoodShare:

<http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare/>

Racine County Information:

<http://www.hsd.racineco.com/LowIncome/Food/tabid/114/Default.aspx>

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance) program website:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

FoodShare Priority Service Screening Change in ACCESS

Applicants who apply for FoodShare online using ACCESS.wisconsin.gov are brought to a page titled "Getting Faster Service for FoodShare." This page asks screening questions to determine if the applicant is eligible for priority service processing for FoodShare benefits. Applicants who qualify for priority service will have their applications processed more quickly, and they may be eligible to receive expedited FoodShare benefits within seven days of the filing date if they meet certain income, asset, or other financial requirements. Beginning on April 22, 2017, applicants will see slight changes on this page.

With the changes, if the applicant leaves any of the monthly income, assets, or housing and utility expenses fields blank, a banner message will remind the applicant to enter information for those fields. If the applicant's income, assets, and housing expenses are \$0, the applicant must enter "0" to be considered for priority service. If any of the fields are ultimately left blank, the applicant will not be eligible for priority service.

If an applicant leaves the fields blank and, therefore, is not eligible for priority service when applying, the applicant may still be eligible for expedited FoodShare benefits when the application is processed. If an applicant is discovered to be eligible for expedited benefits, he or she is required to receive benefits within seven days of when the new information is reported, not the filing date.