2026 Oregon Rural Health Conference Presentation Slides

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF Human Services

Federal Changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Oregon Health Plan (OHP)

Oregon Rural Health Conference
October 8, 2026

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Agenda

- Overview of Federal Changes
- Current Focus
- How to Support Oregonians
- Q&A

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Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

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Federal SNAP changes effective July 2025

More people required to meet **SNAP work or activity rules** to keep receiving benefits



Many **lawfully present non-citizens** no longer eligible for benefits



Some households receive less in SNAP benefits following **changes with energy assistance rules**



Preliminary impacts of federal SNAP changes

From October 2025 to July 2026:

More than

77,000 people

lost SNAP benefits.



$112 million

in food benefits not issued to Oregon households or spent in Oregon communities.



Figures above are inclusive of all HR1 changes to SNAP currently in effect.

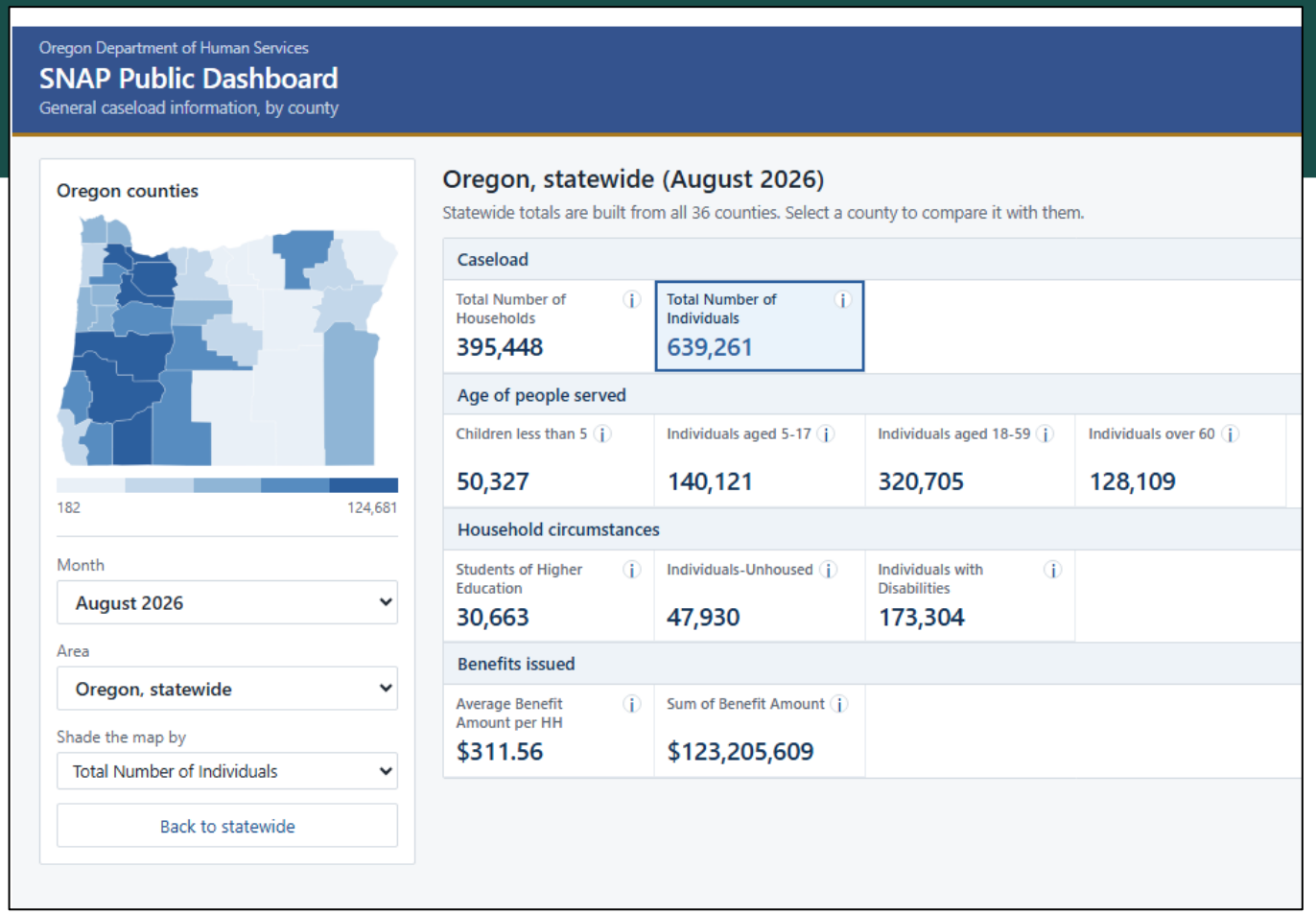
New Oregon SNAP data web page

Easy access to SNAP caseload information

The new web page includes:

- Number of people and households receiving SNAP
- Amount of benefits issued
- Data for Oregon and each county
- Some demographic information

Updated by the 15th of each month

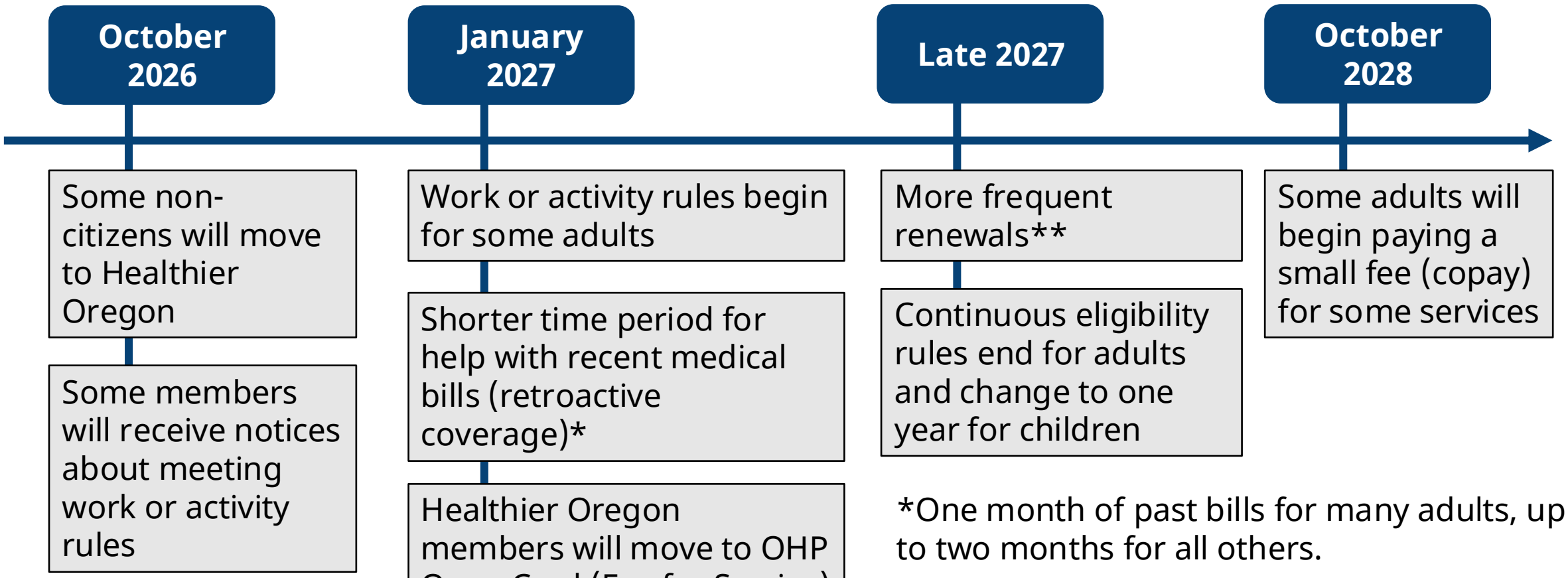


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Federal Changes to Oregon Health Plan (OHP)

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Timeline of Changes to Oregon Health Plan (OHP)



*One month of past bills for many adults, up to two months for all others.

**Six-month renewals for many adults, twelve months for all others.

Preparing for Coverage Impacts from OHP Work or Activity Rules

The potential impacts to coverage from HR1 are still evolving

- Some national forecasts show more than 200,000 people in Oregon who are otherwise eligible could lose Medicaid coverage over the next ten years as a result of HR1[1]
- True impacts will be known over time, and Oregon caseload forecasts continue to adjust as guidance and implementation details evolve
- Oregon is implementing several strategies to limit loss of coverage where possible
- Initial closures could be as early as April 1, 2027, though most members won't be impacted until late 2027 and 2028

1 Manatt Health. Senate-Passed H.R. 1: Updated Estimates on Impact to State Medicaid Coverage and Expenditures, Hospital Expenditures, Including Impacts by Congressional District. Available from: https://shvs.org/resources/senate-passed-h-r-1-updated-estimates-on-impact-to-state-medicaid-coverage-and-expenditures-hospital-expenditures-including-impacts-by-congressional-district/

Medicaid Work or Activity Rules

~600,000

Oregon Health Plan members could be subject to work or activity rules

19-64

The new rules apply only to adults



Some members will qualify for exemptions, such as parents or caregivers of children under 14 and people with certain serious health conditions

Of the roughly 600k adult OHP members who could be subject to work or activity rules...



Some will be excluded or qualify for an exemption



Some will already be meeting work or activity rules



Some will need follow up

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Supporting Oregonians

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Communications and Engagement Approach



- Deliver simple, direct messages with clear calls to action.
- Use accessible formats, plain language, and multiple languages.



- Engage trusted partners who are directly affected.
- Engage providers during implementation.
- Engage nontraditional partners who provide essential supportive services in communities.



- When possible, incorporate input from benefit recipients, community partners, providers, and others.
- Monitor and correct misinformation as it arises.

Preparing Partners



OHA and ODHS are committed to making sure that partners have what they need to support members keeping coverage by providing materials, sharing information at outreach events, and training our assisters.

Materials

- Flyers
- Social Media content
- FAQs
- Talking points
- Newsletter content
- Provider-specific materials
- Materials for co-branding and adapting

Community Outreach

- Forward Together, Clinical Connections, CCO Meetings, etc.
- Webinars and virtual meetings with partners
- Community meetings, tabling events, site visits
- 541 community engagements so far in 2026
- Quarterly communications round tables

Assisters

- ~1,700 assisters across 400 community organizations who are trained and certified to help people enroll or stay enrolled, understand HR1 changes, and navigate the healthcare system.

Provider-Specific Materials

Patient Conversation Guide

- Quick reference guide for providers and administrative staff to understand OHP changes and communicate with patients
- Structure:
  - What's Changing and When
  - What You Need to Know
  - Who's Affected vs. Who's Not
  - Talking Points
  - Where to Go for Help
  - Pocket Card
  - Badge Buddy

Provider FAQ

- FAQ guide answering most common provider questions
- Includes details around exemptions, diagnoses, copays, and other topics especially relevant to providers

Preparing for a busy fall

Health coverage **open enrollment**

Oregon's transition to a **state-based marketplace**

OHP member notices about upcoming federal **Medicaid work requirements**

Ongoing **SNAP changes and benefit questions**

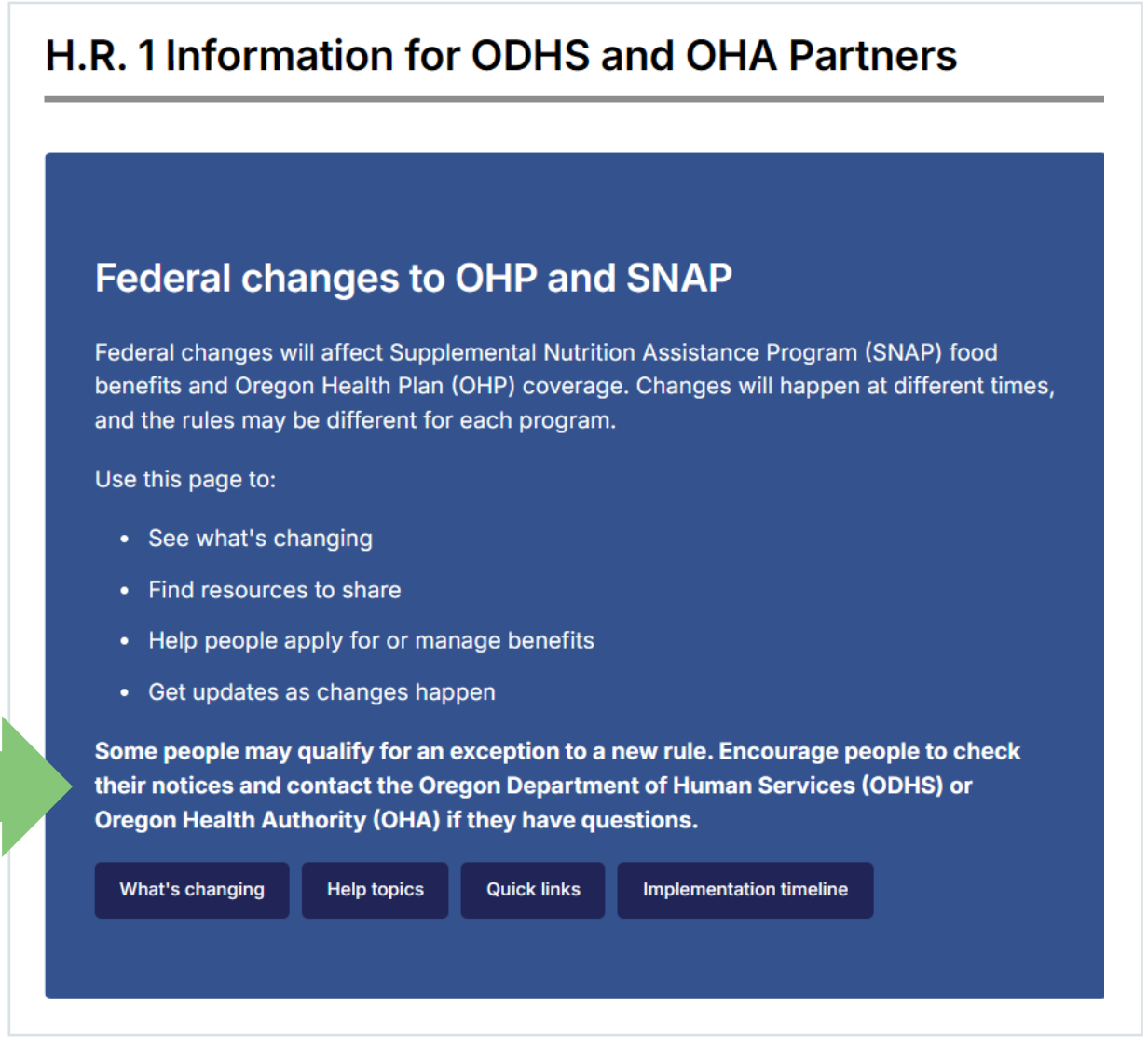
More people may contact ODHS benefits offices and the ONE Customer Service Center for help **and wait times may be longer.**

ODHS|OHA partner web page

ODHS and OHA have a new partner web page with information about federal changes to SNAP and OHP.

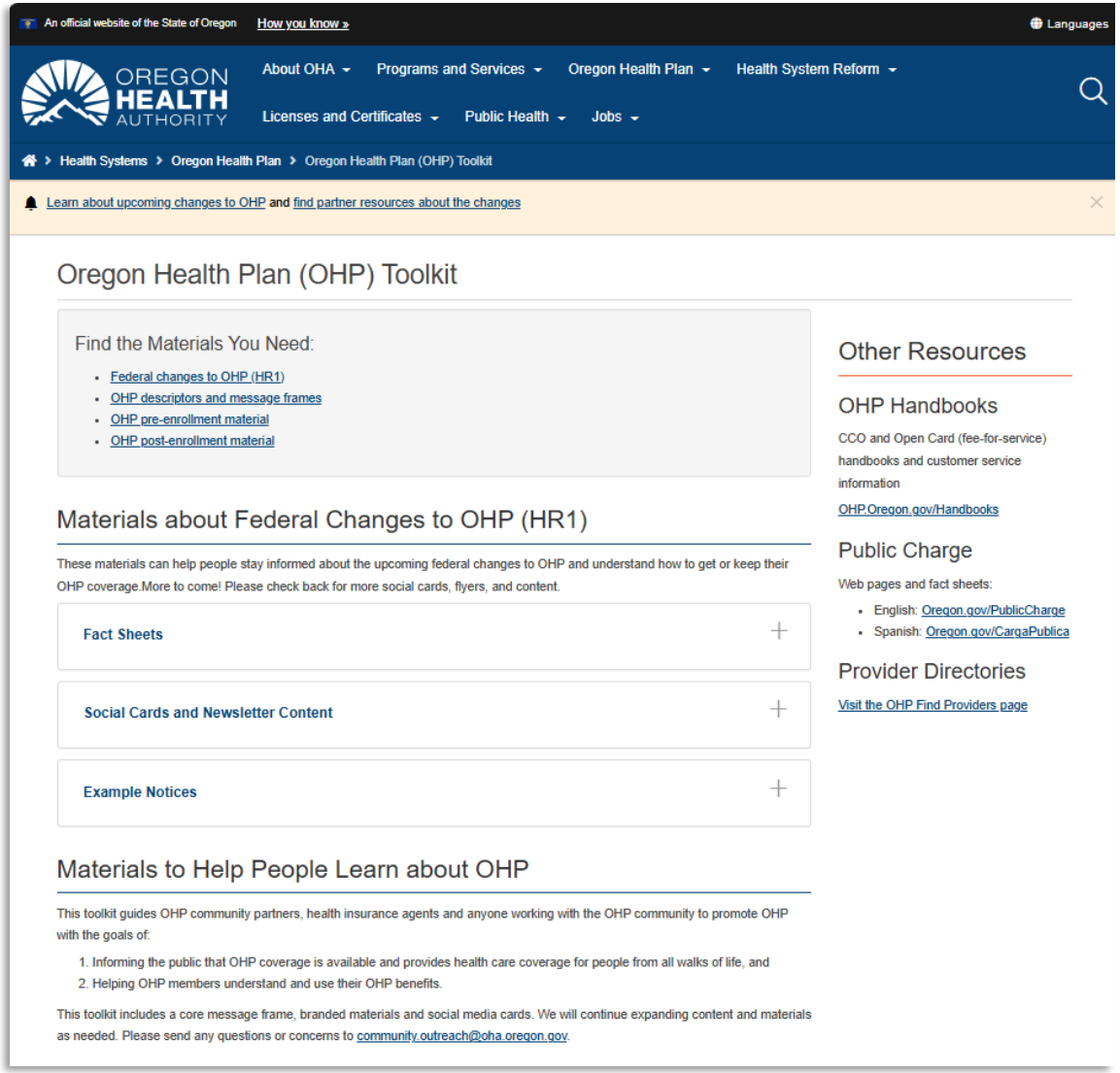
The page helps partners:

- See what is changing
- Find resources to share
- Help people apply for or manage benefits
- Get updates as changes happen



Available Resources

- OHP.Oregon.gov/HR1
  - Information for members about federal changes to Oregon Health Plan
- OHP.Oregon.gov/Toolkit
  - Partner resources: fact sheets, example notices, social cards and newsletter content, enrollment materials, and more
- Oregon.gov/SNAPworkrules
  - Information for members about federal changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



New and upcoming resources

1 FOR PEOPLE WITH SNAP + OHP



SNAP + OHP rules crosswalk

Website and information sheets explain how the two programs' work or activity rules fit together.

Out Now!

2 FOR SNAP PARTICIPANTs

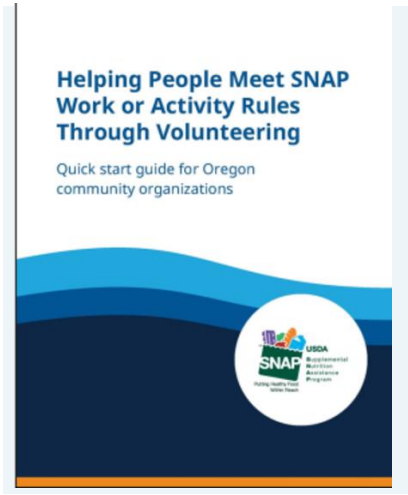


SNAP work or activity rules toolkit

Explains the SNAP rules and how people can comply or regain benefits.

Coming Fall 2026

3 FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



Volunteering guide

Helps community organizations offer volunteer opportunities and verify hours.

Coming Fall 2026

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Q&A

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