

Speaker 1:

The Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, helps supplement the diets of low-income people by providing them with emergency food at no cost. It is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Services Division, and in Arizona managed by the Department of Economic Security.

TEFAP foods can be distributed in a package or used to help make meals served at soup kitchens. Eligible people can receive a TEFAP package for themselves or their households at least once a month by visiting a local participating distribution site. The food in these packages may include canned or dried fruits, vegetables, beans, bottled juices, and nuts. They are often supplemented with fresh produce, grains, pasta, bread, and meat-based protein.

Applying for TEFAP is easy and requires no paperwork or proof of income. Simply visit a distribution site during its operating hours, show a photo ID, self-declare that your household's income meets eligibility criteria, then receive a TEFAP package. On your first visit, you will also provide identifying information, including name, address, date of birth, and household member details. The information provided is securely stored, kept confidential, and used only to track your TEFAP participation.

For more information about TEFAP, program eligibility and where to find distribution sites, visit des.az.gov/emergency-food.