

# COVID-19: Accessing Assistance Through Maine DHHS

*During this rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19 (the 2019 novel coronavirus), the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is changing some of the ways we interact with the public, but we remain committed to ensuring Mainers have the resources they need to live healthy and productive lives.*



*Updated: March 19, 2020*

## Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

If you are struggling to meet your children's basic needs, you may be eligible for **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families**. This program provides a temporary cash benefit to assist parents in meeting these needs.

## Food Supplement

If you're struggling to provide food for yourself or family, you may be eligible for the **Food Supplement** benefit. Food Supplement helps low-income households buy the food they need for good health.

## Health Care Assistance

If you or a family member is without health care or struggling with health care payments, you may be eligible for **Health Care Assistance**. Health Care Assistance, including MaineCare, CubCare and Medically Needy Programs, provides payment to health care providers.\*

## Emergency Assistance

provides benefits to families with children in specified emergency situations when the family is threatened by destitution or homelessness. These situations include fire, other natural disasters, termination of utility service, or evictions. Payments can only be authorized once annually and are directly paid to a vendor.

**Child Care Subsidy** is a program administered by the Office of Child and Family Services that helps eligible families to pay for child care so they can work, go to school or participate in a job training program. Visit <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/ec/occhs/step.htm> or call 1-877-680-5866 to apply.

**General Assistance** is a program administered through municipalities which purchases necessities for individuals who are without means to pay. Applications for General Assistance can be made at any local municipal office. Visit [www.211maine.org](http://www.211maine.org) or dial **211** for connection to community resources.

\*If you lose health insurance coverage provided through your job, and **do not** qualify for MaineCare, you may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period to purchase a health insurance plan through [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov). Depending on your household income, you may be eligible for financial assistance from the federal government to make premiums more affordable. To learn more and check whether you qualify, visit [CoverME.gov](http://CoverME.gov).



## Office for Family Independence

*The Office for Family Independence processes applications and determines eligibility for several DHHS programs and benefits in addition to providing child support services.*

### Contact:

**Mailing:**

114 Corn Shop Ln,  
Farmington, ME 04938

**Fax:** 207-778-8429

**Phone:** 1-855-797-4357

**Email:**

Farmington.dhhs@maine.gov

### How to Apply for Benefits:

Apply online at [www.maine.gov/mymaineconnection](http://www.maine.gov/mymaineconnection)

Mail an application to 114 Corn Shop Lane, Farmington, ME 04938

Fax an application to 207-778-8429

Email an application to Farmington.dhhs@maine.gov

Drop off or fill out an application at your local DHHS office. While paperwork will be accepted, those needing further assistance should call the phone number above to speak with an agent.

Apply over the phone with an Eligibility Specialist (this is only an option for MaineCare applications. It is not yet an option for Food Supplement or TANF).

Visit [www.211maine.org](http://www.211maine.org) or call 211 for more information about COVID-19 as well as supports like food supplement for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), General Assistance, Housing Assistance, child care resources, and public programs.