

Double Up Food Bucks

Frequently Asked Questions: Customers



Q: What is Double Up Food Bucks?

A: Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB) is a program that “matches” SNAP benefits spent at participating farmers markets. For every \$2 of SNAP benefits you choose to spend, you’ll get a match of up to \$20 in DUFB that you can spend on fruits and vegetables. So, if you spend \$20 in SNAP benefits, you’ll get an extra \$20 – FREE – that you can use to buy more produce.

Q: Why is there a separate matching currency for EBT Cash?

Per grant rules, SNAP can be matched with Double Up Food Bucks, but EBT Cash cannot. In order to continue serving shoppers who receive EBT Cash Benefits, FMF has developed a separate matching program.

Q: How do I use my Oregon Trail Card at a farmers market?

Most markets have an Information Booth where a staff person can swipe your Oregon Trail Card. You’ll tell the staff person how much you want to spend in SNAP benefits, and you’ll get that amount of market currency that you spend like cash with the vendors that sell SNAP eligible food items (meat, cheese, eggs, bread, produce, etc.). Each farmers market issues its own unique SNAP currency - these are usually wooden tokens, typically worth \$1 each, and are only good at the market where you received them.

Money is deducted from your SNAP balance the day you get the tokens, whether or not you spend the market currency that day. SNAP tokens can be spent any time during the entire market season. Vendors are not allowed to give you change for SNAP tokens.

Q: How do I get Double Up Food Bucks or Produce Match?

When you use your Oregon Trail Card SNAP benefits at a participating market, you’ll automatically get an equal value of DUFB, up to \$20. DUFB are the look and size of a playing card, and are worth \$2 each for fruits & vegetables.

If you receive EBT Cash benefits, you will receive Produce Match cards rather than DUFB. After that, you may use Produce Match in the same way as DUFB.

Since DUFB and Produce Match are \$2 each, Make sure you ask for an *even* number of SNAP benefits so we can give you the full match. If you ask for \$5 in SNAP, you’ll only get \$4 in DUFB, but if you ask for \$6 from your SNAP Card, you’ll get \$6 in DUFB.

Q: What can I buy with my Double Up Food Bucks, Produce Match, and my SNAP tokens?

A: You can spend your DUFB and Produce Match currency on fresh, dried, or frozen whole or cut fruits and vegetables *without* added sugars, fats, oils, or salt. This includes mushrooms, fresh herbs, dried beans, and edible plant starts (i.e. tomato plants or strawberry plants). You can spend your SNAP tokens on any SNAP eligible foods at the market, such as bread, cheese, meat, nuts, and produce.

Q: Why can I only buy fruits and vegetables with my DUFB and Produce Match?

A: State and federal funding limits the eligible foods to fruits and vegetables only. In addition to making healthy, locally grown produce more affordable, DUFB also helps local farmers boost their incomes, and that is great for Oregon's economy. You can still use your SNAP benefits for other fresh food items, like meats, cheeses, and breads from the other market vendors.

Q: Why is there a separate matching currency for EBT Cash? I've always received DUFB in the past.

A: Our funder, FMF, received a new grant this year and per grant rules, SNAP can be matched with Double Up Food Bucks, but EBT Cash cannot. In order to continue serving this population in our communities, Farmers Market Fund has developed a separate matching program. This new matching currency works exactly like DUFB.

Q: Do I have to sign up for something?

A: No, just come to the market and use your Oregon Trail card at the Information Booth. Your personal information will not be recorded.

Q: What if I don't want to spend all my DUFB/Produce Match today?

A: Keep them and use them next week! DUFB are not refundable because they're free. Some people like to save up their DUFB for when their favorite fruit and vegetables are in season, and then buy large quantities to can or freeze. New DUFB currency is printed each calendar year, so be sure to use them before they expire December 31.

Q: Why can I only get \$20 per market day?

A: DUFB has a limited budget. We want as many people as possible to get the benefit of doubling their fruit and vegetable purchasing power, and the best way to do that is to limit the amount of Food Bucks one person can get per market visit. You can come back every week to this market, and you can visit any other participating market, and you'll get up to \$20 matched at each visit.

Q: Can I use DUFB anywhere else?

A: You can! There are over 74 farmers market locations participating in DUFB for the 2022 market season. Go to www.doubleuporegon.org to find other locations.

Q: What fruits and vegetables can I find at Oregon farmers markets?

A: Depending on the time of year, you'll often see these fruits and vegetables, and some you have never heard of!

Apples	Peaches	Beans	Cucumber	Peas
Apricots		Broccoli	Eggplant	Peppers
Blackberries	Pears	Brussel		Potatoes
Blueberries	Plums	Sprouts	Garlic	
Cherries	Raspberries	Cabbage	Green Beans	Pumpkins
Grapes	Strawberries	Carrots	Lettuce	Radishes
Melons	Tomatoes	Cauliflower	Mushrooms	Squash
Nectarines	Asparagus	Corn	Onions	

And many more!

Q: Is it really free? Where does the money come from?

A: Yes, it's really free. Double Up Food Bucks is partially funded by an appropriation from the State of Oregon, a federal GusNIP (nutrition incentive) and GusCRR grant, and also has support from private and community foundations and partners across Oregon. DUFB is administered by Farmers Market Fund, a Portland-based 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to making healthy, locally-grown food accessible to underserved Oregonians. To learn more, visit www.farmersmarketfund.org.

Q : What is SNAP, and how can I get it?

A: SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and is the new name for the federal food assistance program formerly called Food Stamps. SNAP benefits are issued monthly on the Oregon Trail Card, and can be used to buy eligible foods at most grocery stores and farmers markets.

To learn more about eligibility and how to apply, go to www.oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits or dial 2-1-1 on any phone (211info is a toll-free service).