

# NOTICE

The FreshConnect Checks Program is a component of Governor Andrew Cuomo's FreshConnect Program. At participating farmers markets, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants shopping with their Electronic Benefit Transaction (EBT) card who purchase \$5.00 in wooden tokens will be given a \$2.00 FreshConnect Check. For each subsequent \$5.00 increment, they will be given an additional \$2.00 FreshConnect Check. Participating farmers markets will be mailed signage for farmers/vendors to hang at their farm stalls.

**FreshConnect Checks are also available to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members through Division of Veterans' Affairs offices on a first-come, first-served basis to be used to purchase SNAP eligible food items at any farmers' markets and/or farm stand in New York. Vendors interested in signage may contact the Department.**

Rules and Procedures for Farmers/Vendors:

1. There is no application process for farmers markets, farm stands or vendors who wish to accept FreshConnect Checks.
2. Vendors who sell SNAP eligible food items are encouraged to accept FreshConnect Checks from their customers.
3. Any vendor at any farmers market or farm stand in New York may accept FreshConnect Checks from their customers in exchange for a SNAP eligible food item.
4. Eligible SNAP food items include, but are not limited to:
  - Breads & Cereals
  - Fruits & Vegetables
  - Meats, Fish & Poultry
  - Honey
  - Coffee (whole beans and/or ground)
  - Apple Cider
  - Dairy Products
  - Pasta
  - Baked Goods (for consumption at home)
  - Seeds/Plants (which produce food)
5. FreshConnect Checks may be used in conjunction with other benefits including SNAP EBT wooden tokens, Health Bucks, and WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) or Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) checks.
6. Farmers participating in the S/FMNP should stamp each FreshConnect Check with their State-issued S/FMNP cancellation stamp when seeking reimbursement.
7. Vendors not participating in the S/FMNP should initial each FreshConnect Checks when submitting for reimbursement.
8. All submissions should include a "Redemption Form" or "Universal Coupon Redemption Form."
9. FreshConnect Checks should be submitted for redemption starting February 1, 2016.
10. FreshConnect Checks must be submitted for redemption no later than January 15, 2017.
11. For reimbursement FreshConnect Checks should be mailed to:

Farmers Market Federation of NY  
117 Highbridge Street Suite U-3  
Fayetteville NY 13066

A reimbursement check may take up to 4-5 weeks during peak redemption periods.

