

Nutrition Assistance Programs at New York State Farmers' Markets

General Info Sheet

Farmers that direct market their products at farmers markets can increase their revenue through the acceptance of the following nutrition assistance programs. Please consider participating in the following programs. These programs help keep local farmers in business and healthy food on the table!

WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

This program provides low-income pregnant or nursing mothers, infants and children up to the age of five, who are enrolled in the New York State Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) \$4.00 WIC FMNP checks that can only be used at participating farmers markets to purchase local, fresh, unprocessed vegetables and fruit. WIC participants receive their \$4.00 WIC FMNP checks at their local county WIC office.

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/fmnp-forms-documents.html

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

This program provides eligible, low-income seniors living in New York State with \$4.00 Senior FMNP checks that can only be used at participating farmers markets to purchase local, fresh, unprocessed vegetables and fruit. Eligibility is based on age and income; 60 years or older and income not more than 185% of the federal poverty guidelines. Seniors receive their \$4.00 Senior FMNP checks by contacting their local county Office for the Aging.

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/fmnp-forms-documents.html

WIC Vegetables and Fruits Check Program at Farmers Markets (WIC VF)

This program provides families enrolled in WIC with \$8, \$11 and \$17 checks to purchase fresh, unprocessed produce from authorized farmers. Farmers can become authorized to accept the WIC Vegetable and Fruit Checks with the caveat that they can only do this if they are first authorized by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to participate in the WIC and Senior FMNP.

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/fmnp-wic-vf.html

New York State Wireless SNAP/EBT at Farmers Markets (SNAP/EBT)

This program enables both farmers and market coordinators to become authorized vendors in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps). This equips them to accept SNAP benefits using an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card reader in exchange for eligible SNAP food items. <http://www.nyfarmersmarket.com/ebt-and-creditdebit-machines/>. www.snaptomarket.com

FreshConnect Checks Program (FCC)

This incentive program encourages the use of SNAP benefits at New York State farmers' markets who operate a Wireless EBT Program. For every \$5 transaction using an EBT card, a \$2 FreshConnect Check (FCC) is handed to the customer. FCC's may be used to purchase any SNAP eligible food item, including but not limited to vegetables, fruit, dairy, eggs, bread, jam, honey, and meat.

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/freshConnectPrgm.html

For Program & Application Information, Please Contact:

WIC/Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program WIC Vegetables & Fruits Check Program FreshConnect Checks Program	NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets (518) 457 7076 or (800) 554 4501 www.agriculture.ny.gov or farmersmarkets@agriculture.ny.gov
SNAP/Food Stamps/EBT	Farmers Market Federation of NYS (315) 400 1447 deggert@nyfarmersmarket.com or www.nyfarmersmarket.com