Introducing: Farmers Market Dollars

Did you know?

If you are currently enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), you may be eligible to receive a $25 voucher credit that can be spent on SNAP-eligible products at participating booths at the Albany County Farmers Market, without impacting your benefits for SNAP or other food assistance programs.

Here’s how to receive your $25 in vouchers:

1. Show your SNAP/EBT Benefits Card and a valid form of photo ID at the Downtown Albany BID’s welcome booth.

2. Once we verify you are enrolled in SNAP, you will receive your voucher tickets.

3. Visit participating booths and spend your vouchers on SNAP-eligible products. See reverse side for eligible items and full terms and conditions.

Please note: Market dates for the 2023 Albany County Farmers Market season include July 16, August 20, September 17, and October 15. Supplies are limited, and will be disbursed on a first-come, first-served basis. Farmers Market Dollars voucher tickets are ONLY valid at participating vendors at the Albany County Farmers Market on the day they are disbursed and can never be exchanged for cash or used on a different market date. Purchases may not be split between vouchers and other forms of payment, and no change will be made for purchases using voucher tickets. All items purchased through the program are non-refundable.
Overview: To help increase access to fresh food for our neighbors, the Albany County Farmers Market has established the Farmers Market Dollars program as follows: Individuals currently enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will be eligible to receive a $25 credit in the form of vouchers, which can be exchanged at participating vendor booths for SNAP-eligible products. Vouchers will be disbursed to eligible participants between 12:00 PM and 3:45 PM on each market date during the 2023 season (July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15).

Program terms & conditions: The total monthly disbursal per household will be twenty-five dollars ($25.00). Farmers Market Dollars can ONLY be exchanged for eligible items at participating vendor booths at the market on the date they are disbursed and CANNOT be exchanged for cash or used on a different market date. Purchases may NOT be split between vouchers and other forms of payment, and no change will be made for purchases using voucher tickets. All items purchased through the program are non-refundable. Voucher disbursals are not guaranteed. The program can support a maximum of 100 individual $25 disbursals per market, and disbursals will be made on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last.

How to receive your vouchers: Program participants must show their SNAP/EBT benefits card and a valid form of photo ID (valid driver’s license or DMV-issued non-driver ID, passport, passport card, or US Military ID) at the Downtown Albany BID’s welcome table during each market to verify their enrollment status in SNAP. Once your SNAP enrollment status has been verified, participants will receive a $25 disbursal of voucher tickets.

Eligible purchases: Farmers Market Dollars vouchers can ONLY be exchanged for items that meet the same criteria as items eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which are as follows:

- **Any food for the household, such as:** fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fish, dairy products, breads and cereals; other foods such as snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages; seeds and plants, which produce food for the household to eat.

- **The Farmers Market Dollars credit may NOT be exchanged for:** beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes, or tobacco; vitamins, medicines, and supplements—if an item has a Supplement Facts label, it is considered a supplement and is not eligible; live animals (except shellfish, fish removed from water, and animals slaughtered prior to pick-up from the store); foods that are hot at the point of sale; any nonfood items such as pet foods, cleaning supplies, paper products, and other household supplies; hygiene items, cosmetics.

The Downtown Albany BID reserves the right to make final determinations on eligible purchases. Any questions on whether a product is considered eligible for the program should be directed to a staff member at the Downtown Albany BID’s welcome booth. Vendor participation in the Farmers Market Dollars program is voluntary, and vendors have the right to determine which of their products may be exchanged for Farmers Market Dollars.

Expiration: Vouchers may ONLY be used at the Albany County Farmers Market on the date they are disbursed and will be considered expired and void after 4:00 PM on that date. Unused vouchers should be returned to the Downtown Albany BID’s booth by the end of each market. The Downtown Albany BID, MVP Health Care, Albany County, and participating vendors are not responsible for, and will never provide any type of credit or reimbursement for unused vouchers.

*The Innovation Fund is a partnership between Albany County and MVP Health Care. The purpose of the fund is to improve the overall health and vitality of the community. The fund also promotes MVP Arena as a marquee asset to the community by supporting healthier, inclusive, and expanded opportunities.*