



SNAP 905-1 ISSUANCE EBT Expungement

Supersedes: SNAP 905-1 (05/06/2022)

Reference: 7 CFR 274.2(i)-(1) and (2), 7 CFR 274.2 (h)(1), 7 CFR 274.2(i)(4), 273.13(b)(2), Section 4006 of 2008 Farm Bill

Overview: SNAP benefits are expunged when **nine months or 274 days** have passed from the last time the client completed a SNAP transaction. An EBT account is inactive if the household has not initiated activity that affects the balance of the household's SNAP EBT account, such as a purchase or return.

Balance inquiries do not count as a financial transaction. Benefits are expunged on a “first in, first out” basis.

For example, if a benefit authorization for the month of September 2022 has been available for use by the household for 274 days, but the household has not accessed this benefit, it must be expunged in May 2023. Only a benefit authorization that has been accessible to the household for 274 days is to be expunged. If one or more subsequent benefit authorizations have been available to the household for less than 274 days for the same household account, **they are not to be expunged.**

To avoid expungement, the client must access their benefits by making a purchase for **any** amount. The 274-day time frame starts over with every financial transaction in the SNAP account.

In instances when the State agency verifies a death match for **all certified members of the household** and closes the SNAP case, the State agency shall expunge the remaining SNAP balance in the household's EBT account at that time. Expungement notices are not necessary for these households.

Effective Date: September 24, 2022