



Southwest Oregon IPA

SOUTHWEST OREGON IPA, INC. (SWOIPA) ADMINISTERS PHYSICAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BENEFITS FOR ADVANCED HEALTH MEMBERS.

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MEMORANDUM

To: Provider Network
From: Provider Relations
Date: July 27, 2026
Subject: New HRSN Food Benefit Available

Starting July 1, 2026, the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) will provide fruit and vegetable benefits and pantry stocking benefits to eligible OHP members who have certain medical needs, have low food security, and are going through life situations that make it difficult to get enough healthy food.

At a time when health care costs are rising, addressing basic needs is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve health outcomes for people with complex or chronic health conditions. When people can access healthy foods, they are better able to manage their condition, avoid complications, and avoid high-cost emergency care.

The nutrition benefits are not general food assistance. They provide targeted, medically connected services for people with serious health conditions – such as cancer, lupus or autoimmune disorders – who need nutritional support. These benefits are designed to improve outcomes for members who often experience the highest health care needs and costs.

Eligibility Details

- These nutrition benefits are intended specifically for members with medical and life needs that impact health; not all OHP members will qualify.
- The nutrition benefits are not an emergency food program or general food assistance benefit.

To qualify for OHP nutrition benefits, an OHP member must:

1. Be experiencing a certain life situation
2. Have a qualifying health condition
3. Have low or very low food security
4. Meet any other benefit-specific requirements

1. Qualifying life situations include:

- Being an OHP member with Young Adult with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN) benefits.
- Having left a mental health or substance use disorder treatment facility in the past 12 months.
- Having left incarceration (such as jail or prison) in the past 12 months.
- Being in the Oregon child welfare system (foster care) now or in the past.
- Going from Medicaid-only benefits to qualifying for Medicaid plus Medicare.
- Experiencing homelessness.
- At risk of becoming homeless.

2. Qualifying health conditions include:

- A complex behavioral health need
- A Developmental disability need
- A complex physical health need
- Difficulty with self-care and daily activities
- Experience with abuse or neglect
- Use emergency rooms or crisis services often
- Pregnant or gave birth in the past 12 months
- Child under 6 years of age
- Adult 65 years of age or older
- Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN)

3. Have low or very low food security

- Member must be experiencing Low Food Security or Very Low Food Security as measured by the [U.S. Household Food Security Survey Module](#) from the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

4. Benefit-specific eligibility

- Pantry stocking benefit:
 - Members must be a child under 21, YSHCN, or pregnant.
 - Members must not reside in institutional settings that must provide residents with meals.
- Fruit and vegetable benefit:
 - Members must not reside in institutional settings that must provide residents with meals.

Benefit Details

- Depending on their health plan, members may receive a grocery box delivery or a pre-loaded card that can be used at participating stores. This flexibility allows CCOs to tailor services to their communities.
- The pantry stocking benefit and the fruit and vegetable benefit are both **individual benefits**. They are **not** household benefits. Any eligible member living within a household can receive these benefits within the waiver period.
- Members **cannot** receive Medically Tailored Meals, Pantry Stocking, and Fruit and Vegetable Benefit at the same time. Eligible members may only receive one nutrition benefit at a time.
- Members **cannot** be authorized for the same benefit multiple times. Once a member has received their full pantry stocking benefit or fruit and vegetable benefit, they cannot reapply for the same benefit for the duration of the current 1115 waiver, which ends September 30, 2027.

Fruit and Vegetable Benefit

Up to six months of fruits and vegetables delivered as a grocery box or through a preloaded card. Examples include:

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Canned or packaged fruits (e.g., applesauce)
- Frozen or dried fruits without added sugar
- Fresh herbs

Pantry Stocking Benefit

Up to six months of pantry and grocery items delivered as a grocery box or through a preloaded card. Examples include:

- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, poultry, fish, and plant-based proteins
- Dairy products
- Legumes
- Breads and cereals
- Cooking oils, spices, and herbs
- Snack foods and nonalcoholic beverages
- Seeds and plants that produce food for the household

For more information on the benefits and eligibility requirements, please refer to the following resources on OHA's [HRSN Nutrition web page](#) and the [HRSN Providers web page](#):

- Nutrition factsheet
- HRSN Guidance Document
- HRSN Service Provider FAQs
- CCO FAQs

Applying for Nutrition Benefits

Here are ways OHP members can learn more about the nutrition benefits and apply.

- Members can visit OHA's HRSN Nutrition web page.
- **Members enrolled in a CCO:**
- Members can call their CCO. Contact information for each CCO can be found on [OHA's Coordinated Care Organizations \(CCO\) web page](#).
- Members can access the Nutrition Benefit request for their CCO on [OHA's HRSN Nutrition web page](#).
- **Open Card Members / Members not enrolled in a CCO:**
- Members can call OHP Open Card (also known as Acentra) at 1-888-834-4304 or email at ORHRSN@Acentra.com.
- Open Card Members can access the Nutrition Benefit request form on [OHA's HRSN Nutrition web page](#). Upon filling it out, Members can email the form to ORHRSN@acentra.com.
- Members can call OHP Client Services at 1-800-273-0557 or email Ask.OHP.@odhsoha.oregon.gov with questions about the benefits or for help in finding their CCO.

Members who **do not** qualify for the nutrition benefits and/or are in need of emergency food support can find additional resources through Oregon Department of Human Services' [Food Resources in Oregon web page](#).

NOTE:

- Completing the form for a nutrition benefit doesn't guarantee a member qualifies for services.
- As of July 1, 2026, CCOs and Acentra have 14 days to authorize HRSN services including fruit and vegetable and pantry stocking benefits. An additional 14 days for authorization may be requested.
- If a member is approved for nutrition benefits, additional time may be needed to deliver services.