FormFriendlyKits

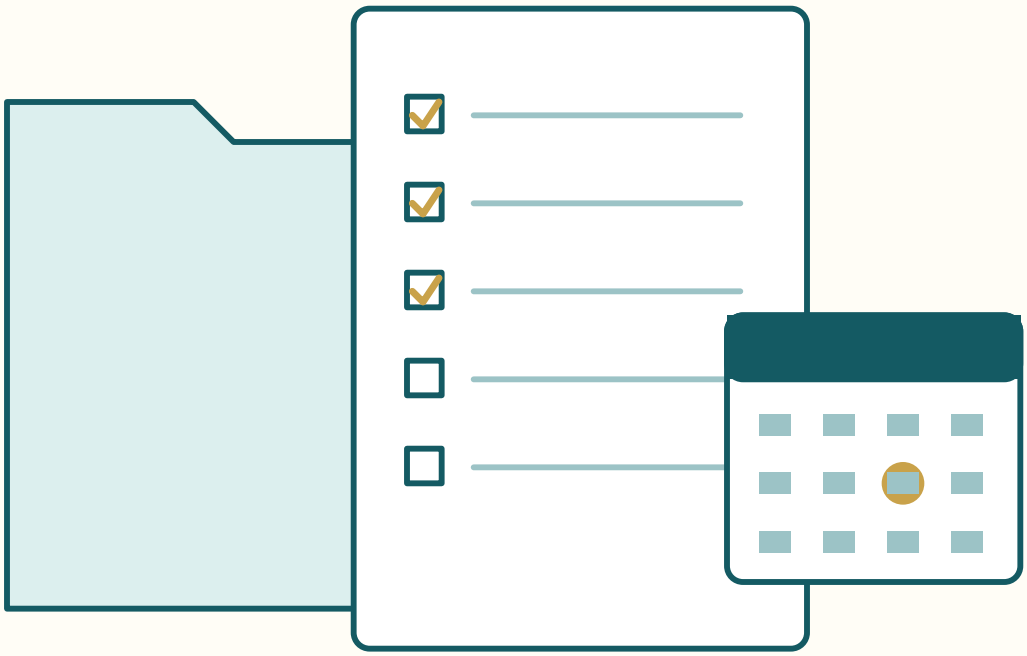
PRINTABLE + FILLABLE PDF KIT

Benefits Application Organizer

Find the right office, prepare the paperwork, and keep your next step visible.

12 fillable worksheets | 5 ready to use messages | Fill on your phone or print

- Routes for SNAP, Medicaid, WIC, TANF and more
- Track proof requests, deadlines and notices
- Worked examples and a completed form



Updated October 2026 · Plain English · Official sources listed

Free sample · The full kit has every page

01 / A MANAGEABLE FIRST STEP

Start with the next need

You do not have to solve every application at once.

If the need is immediate

For food now, use **usa.gov/emergency-food-assistance** for local food resources, or call **211** to ask about community help. For an energy shutoff or other energy crisis, contact the utility and the local energy assistance office promptly. An ordinary application may not meet an immediate need. [B9, B6]

A fifteen minute start

1. Choose the need that matters first: food, health coverage, basic expenses, energy or rent.
2. Use page 3 for program routes and page 4 for SNAP filing rights and expedited screening.
3. Follow the accepted filing process and save its confirmation.
4. Put the next step on worksheet 20. Do not delay contacting an agency while completing this organizer.

Find the page you need

Programs, SNAP filing and offices: 3 to 5. **Documents and income:** 6 to 7.
Applying and interviews: 8 to 9. **Missing proof and follow up:** 10 to 11.
Notices, review and renewals: 12 to 14. **Current rules checkpoint:** 15.
Privacy: 16. **Examples:** 17 to 19. **Blank tools:** 20 to 31.
Official sources and use notes: 32 to 34.

What you are buying

This is a private organizer for your records. It does not file an application, reserve funding, determine eligibility or guarantee approval. Official information and application routes are available directly from agencies without buying this kit. [B1]

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02 / SIX COMMON STARTING POINTS

Match the need to a route

This is a referral map, not an eligibility checklist.

Food and nutrition

SNAP: Help buying food for eligible households. Start with your state or local SNAP office through **usa.gov/food-stamps**. Application methods vary. [B2]
WIC: Nutrition support for eligible pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding applicants, infants and children under 5. Start with the state or local WIC agency through **usa.gov/food-assistance**. [B3]

Health coverage and family support

Medicaid / CHIP: Contact your state Medicaid agency for eligibility, applications and renewals. Use the **Medicaid.gov state directory**. You can apply any time of year. [B4, B11]
TANF: Basic expense assistance for eligible families. State and tribal programs have their own names and rules. Start through **usa.gov/welfare-benefits**. [B5]

Energy and rent

LIHEAP: Help with eligible heating, cooling or energy crisis costs; local requirements vary. Start through **usa.gov/help-with-energy-bills**. [B6]
Housing choice vouchers: Apply through a local public housing agency. Waiting lists may be long or closed; this is not a guaranteed immediate rent solution. Start through **usa.gov/housing-voucher-section-8**. [B7]

Need a different type of help?

Use **usa.gov/benefit-finder** for other categories, including disability, unemployment, retirement and veterans' benefits. This kit does not explain every program's eligibility or application rules. [B1]

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