

# Federal Government Shutdown FAQ

## General Impacts

Q: How will a government shutdown affect food banks in California?

- A shutdown immediately increases demand for food assistance from federal employees, contractors, and military families who miss paychecks. If prolonged, it could also disrupt CalFresh (SNAP), WIC, TEFAP, and other programs due to delays in funding or benefit processing.

Q: What's the difference between a full and partial shutdown?

- In a full shutdown, all agencies without funding close. In a partial shutdown, agencies with appropriations remain open while others furlough staff or require them to work without pay. Both scenarios can cause paycheck disruptions and program delays.

## Federal Employees & Contractors

Q: Will federal employees, military personnel, and contractors be able to get food assistance?

- Yes. Food banks can provide charitable assistance. Federal employees and active-duty military eventually receive back pay; contractors typically do not. For TEFAP, food banks may certify households as eligible during the shutdown if they meet income guidelines without federal pay.

# Federal Government Shutdown FAQ

## Federal Employees & Contractors cont.

Q: When will paychecks stop?

- Oct. 1 (Day 1): Contractors impacted immediately; civilians receive their last full paycheck.
- Oct. 15 (Day 15): Military and reservists miss their first paycheck; civilians receive partial pay.
- Oct. 29–31 (Days 29–31): Civilians miss their first full paycheck; military miss their second

## Nutrition Programs

Q: Will CalFresh experience delays?

- CalFresh benefits should be delivered in full and on their normal monthly issuance schedule at least through October. CAFB will be updating our CalFresh & Government Shutdown Page [here](#).