

## Covid-19 Emergency Food Resources

During this unprecedented time for our University, we know that students, staff, and faculty are at increased risk of food and housing insecurity. Whether you stayed local or returned to your home state, we want to help provide you with resources to make this transition as safe and stable as possible.

The most up-to-date information during this time can be found at [www.utk.edu/coronavirus/](http://www.utk.edu/coronavirus/). Check there and your email for regular developments.

### UTK Resources

- **865-974-HELP:** The Dean of Students' referral line is still live and able to connect students to needed resources. They can help with everything from supporting students' mental wellbeing during this stressful time to directing you towards other helping organizations.
- **Big Orange Meal Share:** This Dean of Students program will be ongoing throughout the closures. The plans for allocating meals are adjusting as the situation develops but they are committed to maintaining support to students.
- **Smokey's Pantry** at Tyson House will not be open for regular pantry hours to reduce the chance of exposure. They will, however, be supporting the UT community through individual appointments. Their supplies will be mostly non-perishable for the time being. No one is ever asked to qualify their need at Smokey's Pantry, everyone is welcome. Email [smokeyspantry@gmail.com](mailto:smokeyspantry@gmail.com) or call 865-236-1235 to make an appointment.
- **Vol Dining:** The availability of food on campus is evolving based on the anticipated number of student residents who cannot leave. For now, the best resource is to watch [dining.utk.edu/hours/](http://dining.utk.edu/hours/) for updates. Dining will be refunding students for the unused portion of their meal plans in the near future.

### East TN Resources

- **Food Pantry lists**
  - [www.foodpantries.org/ci/tn-knoxville](http://www.foodpantries.org/ci/tn-knoxville)
  - [www.fishpantry.org/index.php?page=pantry\\_locations](http://www.fishpantry.org/index.php?page=pantry_locations)
  - [jewishknoxville.org/jfs/foodpantries](http://jewishknoxville.org/jfs/foodpantries)
  - [secondharvestetn.org/find-a-food-pantry/](http://secondharvestetn.org/find-a-food-pantry/)
- **Yassin's Falafel House** is offering free meals to students. You can pick up curbside or have it delivered through Gateway Delivery with the code YFHGW! Call 865-219-1462 or see their Facebook page for more details.



ONE IN THREE

UT Knoxville students is food insecure, more than double the state and national rates (13% and 12%, respectively.)



STAY UPDATED



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### State & Federal Resources

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** Most Work Study students and some others who work 80 hours a month were already eligible for SNAP but the restrictions have been relaxed during this pandemic. Individuals may receive up to \$195/month in grocery assistance. You can now apply online at [faonlineapp.dhs.tn.gov](http://faonlineapp.dhs.tn.gov) or [tinyurl.com/TNSNAPrelief](http://tinyurl.com/TNSNAPrelief). **If you already receive SNAP**, you can also ask for a temporary raise in the amount you receive.
- **Employment protection:** Tennessee and many other states are extending unemployment benefits for workers impacted by closures and expediting the process. You can apply for that here: [www.tn.gov/workforce.html](http://www.tn.gov/workforce.html)
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):** TANF benefits are also being expanded. If you are a parent of guardian of a dependent child, you may be eligible. That application is here: [faonlineapp.dhs.tn.gov](http://faonlineapp.dhs.tn.gov)
- **Text "Food" to 877-877:** This is a service through No Kid Hungry and the USDA that connects people to summer feeding programs for children under 18. It is, however, live during these school closures as well. It works nationwide but may not have complete information for every area yet.
  - For Knox County, you can find Emergency Feeding locations here: [www.knoxschools.org/covid19update#feeding](http://www.knoxschools.org/covid19update#feeding). These meals will be pick up only.
- **Food Pantry lists**
  - [www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank](http://www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank)
  - [www.foodpantries.org/](http://www.foodpantries.org/)
  - [www.freefood.org/](http://www.freefood.org/)
- **WIC Awareness:** When possible, do not purchase WIC approved items that are low in stock. WIC recipients cannot choose other items to make up what isn't available.



Follow Student Basic Needs Coalition for other resources



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