

New to Food Banking?

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Definition of a Food Bank

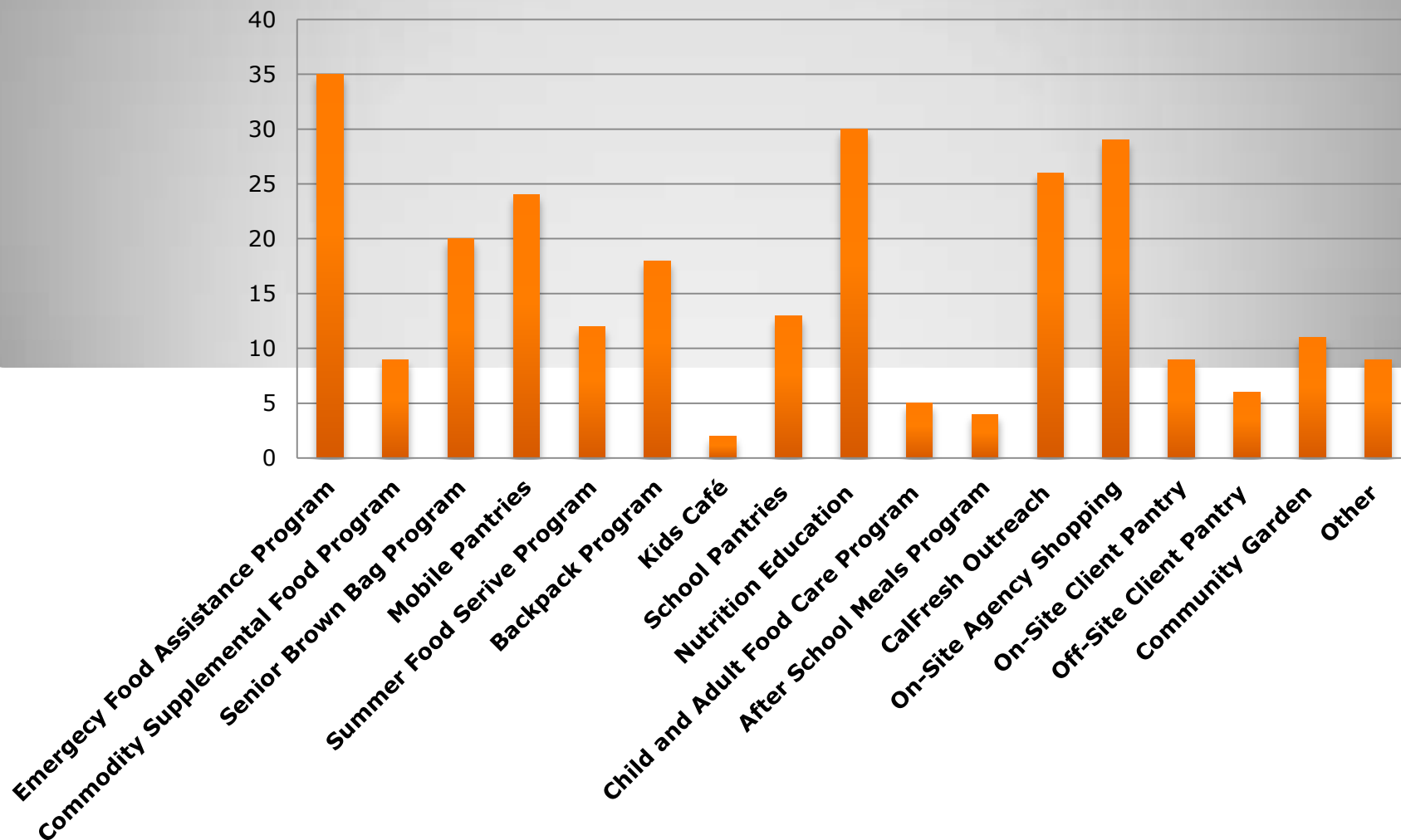
Food Bank Member: A Food Bank Member is a non-profit corporation with incorporation accepted and approved by the State of California, with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status approved by the Internal Revenue Service, and with 23701(d) tax exempt status approved by the State of California; is in good standing with the Federal and State authorities governing non-profit organizations; and has a Board of Directors representing the community served.

The organization must strive to address the needs of its defined service area in a comprehensive manner by soliciting, receiving, warehousing and distributing sufficient quantities of perishable and nonperishable food. The organization must have a mechanism for accepting direct service agencies that operate food assistance programs for low income people as “member agencies”, and, using economy of scale gained by large scale food acquisition, must offer food to any member agencies at no charge, or minimal charge.

The organization must also demonstrate a commitment to the principle of non-discrimination and demonstrate that it works collegially with other California food banks in furtherance of the Association’s mission to build a well-nourished California. Food Bank members have all the duties and responsibilities of members outlined in the bylaws.

Member Profiles – Operations & Programs

Indicate which programs your food bank currently operates. Check all that apply.



Food Programs

- SNAP
- (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- This was called the Food Stamp Program before. SNAP is the national program name. Some States may call it something else.
- What the Program Does
- With SNAP, you get an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.
- You use it like a debit card to buy food at the grocery store.
- SNAP puts benefits on this card once a month. SNAP also has
- programs to help you learn to eat healthy and be active.
- Who Can Apply
- SNAP is for people and families with low incomes. Anyone can apply. If you qualify, you will receive SNAP. The amount depends on your income, your expenses, and your family size.
- If you are an immigrant, you have to prove you have legal status to apply for SNAP. Getting SNAP will not hurt your chances to become a citizen if you are documented. You may have a waiting period before you can get SNAP.
- Here are some immigrants that may be able to get SNAP without having to wait:
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 - Documented immigrant children under age 18
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 - Refugees
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 - Elderly and disabled

- TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program)
- What the Program Does
- TEFAP gives food to food banks in every State. Then the food banks give food to soup kitchens and food pantries. You may be able to eat at local soup kitchens. You may also be able to take food home from local pantries or have food delivered to you.
- Who Can Apply
- Each State has its own rules about who can get food at soup kitchens and food pantries. Also, not all areas in each State offer TEFAP.
- Call the National Hunger Hotline at 1-866-348-6479 to find out about soup kitchens and pantries in your area. Then call the soup kitchen or food pantry in your area to find out who can apply.
- To Learn More About TEFAP
- Call the National Hunger Hotline at 1-866-348-6479. You can also visit www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/tefap.

Food Programs

- FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations)
- American Indians are eligible for all nutrition programs, including SNAP and WIC. But you cannot get both SNAP and FDPIR.
- What the Program Does
- With FDPIR, you can get a package of USDA Foods to take home once a month.
- Who Can Apply
- People with low incomes living on Indian reservations can apply. In some areas, Native Americans who live near reservations may also apply. If you receive FDPIR, you cannot receive SNAP.
- To Learn More About FDPIR
- Call your Tribal Organization to learn more or to apply.
- To find out the phone number of the Tribal contact in your State, call 1-866-348-6479. You can also visit
- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/contacts/fdpiir-contacts.htm>.

Food Programs

- WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)
- What the Program Does
- Each month, WIC provides a voucher or coupon. You use it to buy foods that will help you and your children eat healthy. You can also learn about healthy eating, get support to help
- you breastfeed your baby, and find out about healthcare and other services. In some States WIC is using Electronic Benefit
- Transfer (EBT) cards. In these States, you use an EBT card, like a debit card, to buy food at the grocery store.
- Who Can Apply
- You can apply for WIC if you have a low income and have recently had a baby, are pregnant, or are breastfeeding, or if you have children up to 5 years old. You may be able to get WIC even if you do not qualify for SNAP.
- To Learn More About WIC
- Call your local health department or, to find out where
- to apply in your State, visit
- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/Contacts/statealpha.HTM>

Food Programs

- CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program)
- What the Program Does
- Some States offer CSFP in some areas. With CSFP, you can get a food package to take home once a month.
- Who Can Apply
- Pregnant women, mothers of babies, and families with children up to age 6 who have a low income can apply. But you must live in an area that offers CSFP. You may not apply if you are on WIC. You may apply if you are on SNAP.
- To Learn More About CSFP
- Visit
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/contacts/sdacontacts.htm> or call
- 1-866-348-6479 to find your State CSFP contact.

Food Programs

- School Meals Programs
- There are many school meals programs. They include the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and others.
- What the Programs Do
- In the National School Lunch Program, children can get free or lower price lunches at school. Some schools also serve breakfast, after-school snacks, fresh fruits and vegetables, and summer meals.
- Who Can Apply
- Families with children in grade school through high school can apply. If you get help from SNAP, your children will get free or lower price school breakfasts and lunches. But you may qualify even if you are not in one of these programs.
- To Learn More About the School Meals Programs
- Ask someone at the office of your child's school what meal programs they offer and how to apply. You can also visit
- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd>.

Food Programs

- SFSP (Summer Food Service Program)
- What the Program Does
- Some schools, summer camps, churches, and community groups serve free breakfasts and lunches to children during the summer.
- Who Can Apply
- Meals are served to any child age 18 and younger who comes to eat. But some camps and clubs serve only children in their programs.
- To Learn More About SFSP
- To find where summer meals are in your area, call your State's phone number. You can find out this phone number by calling 1-866-348-6479. You can also visit
- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/summer>.

Food Programs