

# SNAP Retailer Notice

Generally, stores may not charge taxes at the point-of-sale on food purchased with SNAP benefits.

Here are the four things you need to know if SNAP-eligible foods are subject to tax in your area:

1. **Tax on SNAP eligible items included in the shelf price:** If your store is including tax of any kind in the shelf price of a beverage or food item and it is not shown separately on the cash register receipt, then you **can** charge the full shelf price (including the tax) in sales to SNAP clients.
2. **Tax on SNAP eligible items included in the shelf price but required to be separated on the cash register receipt:** If your store is **required** to break out a tax that is normally included in the shelf price so that it shows separately on the cash register receipt, then you **cannot** include the charge in sales to SNAP clients.
3. **Tax on SNAP eligible items charged at point-of-sale:** If your store is instead **required** to separately charge a tax at the point-of-sale (i.e. if the tax appears separately on the receipt), then you **cannot** include the charge in sales to SNAP clients.
4. **You cannot charge a tax at the point-of-sale and then offer a refund of that tax to SNAP clients.** This is not an acceptable way of managing a tax that is charged at the point-of-sale.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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**Relevant statute and regulations include:**

7 U.S.C. 2013 (a), and  
7 CFR § 272.1 (b), § 278.2(b), and §278.1 (l)(1)(vii)

If you have any questions, please contact the Food and Nutrition Service at [RPMDHQ-WEB@fns.usda.gov](mailto:RPMDHQ-WEB@fns.usda.gov).