

D.2—SNAP EBT Scanner Study: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is this study about?

FNS wants to better understand the cost and possible concerns of installing scanners so that they can try to reduce the effect of the 2014 Farm Bill scanner requirement on small retailers like you.

Why should I complete this survey?

By completing the survey, you will provide FNS with information that may make meeting the Farm Bill requirement easier for you as a small retailer. The information you provide could help reduce the cost of complying with the new law.

How was my store selected to participate?

Your store was selected as part of a sample of all small retailers who are authorized to accept SNAP benefits.

Do I have to complete this survey?

Your participation is voluntary, but without your response, the survey may not accurately represent small retailers like yourself. Your participation is very important!

Who should complete the survey?

The person who knows the most about your store's inventory and register system should complete the survey. This could be an owner, manager, or a regional manager. You can complete the survey or have someone else do it.

Will my survey data be kept private and secure?

Yes. RTI will not provide FNS with any information that would identify you or your store. The survey results will only be reported in summary form; no individual data will be reported. Your data will not be shared with any other outside the research team, except as otherwise required by law, and RTI has systems in place to ensure your information will be kept secure.

How long will it take me to complete the survey?

About 15 minutes.

Will my answers impact my eligibility to accept SNAP benefits?

No. The information you provide will not have any impact on your SNAP authorization.

Will my answers be used to determine if I am following SNAP rules?

No. The information you provide will not be used to find out if you are complying with FNS, USDA, or any other government regulations. There are no penalties if you decide not to participate.

By what date will I need to have scanners at my store?

No retailers are required to have scanners right now. The results of this survey will help FNS decide the effective date for the new rules. All retailers will receive notice from FNS before that date so that they have enough time to install the necessary equipment.

When should I return my completed survey?

Within 2 weeks of receipt. You may complete the survey online or by mail.

Will I be contacted again?

Maybe. Some stores will be asked to take part in a follow-up interview by phone or in person. The interview is voluntary and will take about 20 to 30 minutes.

Who is RTI International?

RTI International is a nonprofit research firm located in North Carolina. RTI has a long history of conducting research for many government agencies and will protect the data you provide.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

If you have any questions on how to complete the survey, please contact the Survey Helpline toll-free at 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX or SCANR_Survey@rti.org.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-XXXX. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 2 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.