



Penalties in the Food Supplement Program

If you...	You will lose food benefits...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hide information or make false statements Use EBT cards that belong to someone else Use food benefits to buy alcohol or tobacco Trade or sell benefits or EBT cards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 months for the first offense 24 months for the second offense and permanently for the third offense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade food benefits for controlled substances, such as drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for 24 months for the first offense and permanently for the second offense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade food benefits for firearms, ammunition or explosives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanently
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade, buy or sell food benefits of \$500 or more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanently
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give false information about who you are and where you live so you can get extra food benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 years for each offense

You can also be fined up to \$250,000 or put in prison for up to 20 years or both, for doing these things. You may also be charged under Federal laws.

The information you give us will be checked to make sure your household is eligible for food benefits and Cash Assistance. Federal, State, and Local officials will check the information you give us. The information you give us may also be checked by other Federal Aid programs and Federally-Aided State programs, such as School Lunch and Medicaid. If any information given is found to be incorrect, you may be denied Food Benefits/Cash Assistance. If you give false information on purpose, legal action may be taken against you. You may also have to pay back the amount of benefits you should not have received.