



Reference Guide to Acronyms & Terms

Federal Nutrition Benefit Program-related:

- WIC – Women, Infants and Children (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/>)
- FMNP – Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program: grant program by USDA for state agencies to issue checks for low-income women, infants, children & seniors (age 60+) to purchase locally grown fruits & vegetables at farmers’ markets. In Maryland it’s run by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and has two groups of low-income participants: WIC and Seniors. (http://www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/fm_nutrition_program.pdf)
- DC FMNP: Washington DC Farmers Market Nutrition Program for WIC and Seniors, called “Get Fresh” (http://doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp/view,a,1371,q,582102,dohNav_GID,1787,dohNav,%7C33120%7C33139%7C.asp and http://www.doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp/view,a,1373,q,582732,dohNav_GID,1801,dohNav,%7C33183%7C33186%7C.asp)
- DC CSFP: Washington DC CSFP (http://www.doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp/view,a,1373,q,582732,dohNav_GID,1801,dohNav,%7C33183%7C33186%7C.asp)
- FVC – Fruit & Vegetable Check Program: a WIC program that issues checks to purchase fresh produce; Maryland is one of just 25 states authorized to accept these at farmers markets due to collaboration between MDA and DHMH. (http://fha.maryland.gov/wic/wic_farmers.cfm)
- CVV – Cash Value Voucher: the term used in some other states for the FVC program.
- CVC – Cash Value Check: the term used in DC for their FVC program.
- SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/>)
- FSP – Food Supplement Program: Maryland’s term for SNAP (<http://dhr.maryland.gov/fiaprograms/fstamp/index.php>).
- EBT – electronic benefit transfer: the means by which SNAP recipients get their benefits which works like a bank debit card and therefore requires a card-reader machine (which usually must be wireless at farmers markets due to a lack of landlines and electricity).
- POS – point of sale or service: this is reference to the location where the transaction takes place, so a machine that accepts EBT may be referred to as “POS terminal” at the farmers market
- Incentive Programs: programs at farmers markets that provide incentives for federal nutrition benefit program participants to use these instruments; they are often in the form of matching so that participants can increase how much they can spend at market. These are usually administered with grant funding so vary by market, and in Maryland are also known as matching, double dollar, “Fresh Checks”, or “Baltimore Bucks”.

Federal level:

- USDA – United States Department of Agriculture (www.usda.gov)
- FNS – Food and Nutrition Service: a division of USDA (www.fns.usda.gov)
- AMS – Agricultural Marketing Service: a division of USDA (www.ams.usda.gov)
- FMNP – Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/fmnp/FMNPfaqs.htm>)
- SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/>)
- FMPP – Farmers Market Promotion Program (www.ams.usda.gov/fmpp)
- FSMIP – Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (www.ams.usda.gov/fsmip)
- NOP – National Organic Program (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/nop>)
- WIC – Women, Infants and Children (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/>)
- SCBG – Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (www.ams.usda.gov/specialtycropblockgrant)
- GAP & GHP – Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/GAPGHPAuditVerificationProgram>)
- CSFP – Commodity Supplemental Food Program: USDA program to provide food to eligible WIC and Seniors (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/csfp/>) , distributed through state agencies.

State level:

- MDA - Maryland Department of Agriculture (www.mda.state.md.us)
- MDHMH - Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (www.dhmmh.maryland.gov)
- MD WIC – Maryland Office of Women, Infants & Children (www.mdwic.org)
- MDoA – Maryland Department of Aging (<http://www.aging.maryland.gov/>)
- DC DoH – Washington DC Department of Health (<http://www.dchealth.dc.gov/doh/site/default.asp>)
- DHR – Maryland Department of Human Resources: the agency that administers SNAP in Maryland (<http://dhr.maryland.gov/index.php>)
- DSS – Department of Social Services: these are the local offices where SNAP users can sign up for and receive their benefits. In Maryland, SNAP benefits are distributed between the 6th and 15th of each month. (<http://dhr.maryland.gov/county.php>)
- AMP – Agricultural Marketing Professionals: in Maryland there is one in almost every county who works either through the Extension Service or the County Economic Development Office. (<http://www.marylandsbest.net/pdf/amp.pdf>)
- UMD: University of Maryland (www.umd.edu)
- UME: University of Maryland Extension (<http://extension.umd.edu/>)

Non-profit / other organizations:

- FHCASA – FutureHarvest, a Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture (www.futureharvestcasa.org)
- CLF – Center for a Livable Future (<http://www.jhsph.edu/clf/>)
- CCFN - Crossroads Community Food Network (<http://thecrossroadsfarmersmarket.org/>)