County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

CalFresh FOOD

ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER (EBT) SAFETY & SECURITY MONTH

Community and Retailer Action to Protect EBT Benefits

DPSS Communications

October 2026

In observance of Cybersecurity Awareness Month, DPSS is proclaiming October as EBT Safety & Security Month at our offices throughout Los Angeles County. Although the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) reports that enhanced EBT security features have reduced reported theft by 83%, according to a 2025 District Attorney report, current EBT theft is still a problem and most of it is happening throughout L.A. County.

When benefits are stolen, families lose the resources they depend on for food and basic needs. Retailers also lose sales and customer trust – especially when a customer's card information is compromised through a tampered point-of-sale (POS) device. You can help stop EBT theft. Here is how to take action:

HELP PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY IN THREE EASY STEPS

1. Preserve the POS

Retailers: Inspect checkout terminals regularly for skimming devices and offer tap-to-pay options whenever possible.

2. Download & Share Digital Tools

Help customers safeguard their funds by sharing the official ebtEDGE mobile app by FIS, LLC from Apple and Google Play stores, so cardholders can freeze and unfreeze cards, reset PINs, and monitor balances.

3. Reshare & Repost!

Let's get this EBT safety and security information to communities and customers by sharing and reposting our campaign content on:

- Facebook: @lacdpss
- Instagram: @laco_dpss
- X: @LACo_DPSS

FOR DIRECT POSTING DOWNLOAD THESE ASSETS (OPTIONAL)

Download our content and post with the suggested social media caption below:

October is EBT Safety & Security Month at DPSS. Tap-to-pay is the safest way! Download the FREE official ebtEDGE Mobile App by FIS, LLC from the Apple and Google Play stores to:

- Freeze/unfreeze your EBT card with each use to block unauthorized access
- Change your PIN
- Monitor your account balance in real time

Just look for the app with the fried egg logo! Like & share so everyone's aware! *#EBTSafetySecurity #TaptoPay*

Please direct all questions about this effort and our content to Shelby Stephens, Public Information Associate @shelbystephens@dpss.lacounty.gov or (562) 908-8642.