NEW YORK STATE | Department of Agriculture and Markets

NEW YORK STATE | Office for the Aging

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

Tip Sheet for Distribution of Booklets

General Information

- Each SFMNP coupon booklet is worth **$25** and contains five (5) $5.00 coupons.
- Eligibility is determined by two factors, age and income.
  - **60 years or older**
  - **low-income** based on the criteria on the Statement of Eligibility Form
- **Each** older adult in a household is eligible to receive a booklet if they meet the age and income requirements.
- Eligible older adults can receive booklets from **any distribution site** regardless of their county of residence.
- Distribution is on a **first come first served** basis; if needed, keep a list of eligible adults seeking coupons should more become available.
- All SFMNP coupons must be **stored in a secure, locked location** until needed.
- **End of Distribution:** Coupons cannot be issued after **September 30, 2025.**
- **Last Day to Use: November 30, 2025.** Not all markets remain open through November 30th; recipients should check prior to their visit.

Note: The complete guidance for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for AAA Coordinators and others implementing the program is contained in the Program Instruction issued by NYSOFA. This tip sheet is not intended to communicate all the program information, but rather the key points for front-line distributors.

Distribution Checklist on next page

Distribution Checklist

- Coupons cannot be issued after September 30th of the current year.
- Display “Justice for All” Poster
- Completion of Statement of Eligibility by each interested individual
  - A Proxy with a completed Proxy Form and a Statement of Eligibility form signed by an older adult may pick up coupons on their behalf.
  - A Power of Attorney, showing proof of being the POA, may sign the Statement of Eligibility and obtain booklets. You do not need to keep the POA documentation, only the Statement of Eligibility.
- Complete “Internal Use Only” section of Statement of Eligibility form.
- Provide participant with:
  - $25 coupon booklet
  - Pocket Folder
  - Market Schedule
  - Verbal explanation of program & guidelines for use:
    - Purpose of the program is to promote increased access to locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables and support local farmers;
    - A farmers’ market is a grouping of individual local farmers selling what they grow;
    - Coupons are a booklet of five (5) $5.00 coupons worth $25;
    - SFMNP coupons may only be used at authorized farmers’ markets and farm stands; not grocery stores. Authorized markets will display the brightly colored sign saying, “We Gladly Accept Coupons Here”.
    - Coupons may only be used to buy locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables from participating farmers. Farmers will not accept the coupons for ineligible items like cider, jams, honey, or baked goods; recipients should not insist that the coupons be accepted for them.
    - Other vendors at the same market selling ineligible items will not accept the coupons; recipients should not insist, they do.
    - Coupons cannot be used after November 30th of the current year. Program dates are listed on the face of each coupon and in the coupon folders that are issued with the coupons.
    - Individual coupons are worth $5.00. Farmers will not give change. If a purchase is less than $5.00, select additional items to bring the purchase up to $5.00.
    - Coupons may be redeemed by caregivers/others on behalf of an older adult if the recipient is not able to shop in person at the farmers’ market for produce.