Budget Basics: Public Health & Nutrition

FY 2018

An introduction to Missouri’s public health & nutrition services and funding
Public Health

Public health and nutrition services are funded through Missouri’s Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH). DCPH works with local public health agencies (LPHAs) and community partners to improve the health and well-being of Missourians through public health interventions and the analysis of health and longevity trends.

This primer is intended to serve as a guide for Missourians who care about public health and nutrition services. These services are funded through the Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH) budget, which is included in House Bill 10. Amounts included are Appropriated and reflect Gubernatorial vetoes, but not any mid-year restrictions that may have been made.
Budget Basics

Each year the state takes in and spends approximately $27 billion.

- About one third of the funds come from the federal government for very specific purposes.
- Another third is state revenue dedicated to specific state purposes, like the fuel tax, which is dedicated to transportation.
- Lawmakers have the most authority to allocate the final third, referred to as General Revenue.

Funding for the Division of Community and Public Health

Total DCPH Budget, by Source of Funding
FY 2018

- In FY 2018, $370.3 million is dedicated to the Division of Community and Public Health.¹
- The vast majority of funding (89%) for public health and nutrition comes from federal sources.
Public Health

The Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH) provides funding for a range of programs that support healthy and stable communities. DCPH coordinates the response to public health emergencies, directs programs that prevent and manages chronic and communicable disease, monitors and investigates environmental health hazards, conducts screenings for genetic conditions in newborns and maintains vital records and surveillance systems.

**Public Health Agencies Help Deliver:**

**Emergency response**
- Disaster preparedness education for nearly 370,000 Missouri families

**Environmental Health**
- 87,920 Missouri children are tested for lead.
- Inspected 6,200 child care facilities and 31,500 food service establishments for environmental hazards.

**Newborn screenings**
- 75,000 Missouri newborns are screened for genetic disorders and hearing loss annually.

**Vital records**
- Over 1.4 million immunizations records
- Over 3.6 million donor registry enrollees

**Disease prevention and control**
- Monitored over 91,000 cases of communicable disease in Missouri, including 35 cases of Zika virus.
Local Public Health Agencies (LPHA) and other partner organizations work with the DCPH to provide comprehensive public health services in Missouri. The 115 LPHAs in Missouri are locally governed and financially supported through local, state, and federal funds.

Funding for Local Public Health Agencies FY2016

Other revenue sources include federal and state funds used to reimburse LPHAs for services provided (such as home health services) that fall outside their core public health functions.

The Missouri State Public Health Laboratory (MSPHL) serves local public health agencies, hospitals and medical and law enforcement professionals around the state by conducting and confirming a range of tests related to public health. The MSPHL is located in Jefferson City with a branch location in Poplar Bluff.

In FY2016 the Public Health Laboratory performed 6.9 million analyses and tested 286,000 samples.

- Performed 92,171 newborn screenings
- Tested 67,739 samples of drinking water and 1,408 samples of food
- Issued 4,006 permits for breath alcohol analysis
- Distributed 303,702 test kits to LPHAs, hospitals, and private labs in Missouri.
Nutrition

The federal government provides funding for several nutrition programs housed within the DHSS Division of Community and Public Health. These programs are aimed primarily at serving children, pregnant and postpartum women, seniors, and the homeless.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) provides vouchers for nutritious food, health screenings, nutrition counseling, and breastfeeding promotion and support. In order to qualify for WIC, a family’s income must be below 185% of the federal poverty level.

In FY2017, this program will serve 34,433 women, 36,541 infants, and 65,446 children.

Who qualifies for WIC?
- Pregnant women
- New mothers
- Infants
- Children up to age 5

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides funding for nutritious meals and snacks served to children and adults in day care centers, after-school enrichment programs, and emergency homeless shelters. In FY2018, this program will serve 84,530 individuals per day.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides funding for organizations to serve meals to low-income children age 18 and under when school is not in session. In FY2018, this program will serve 125,345 children per day.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides a variety of nutritious food packages that are distributed to elderly qualified participants through the food bank network.

WIC Income Guidelines*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Annual Income</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>30,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>37,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>45,510</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Pregnant women count as 2 household members
**Nutrition**

The federal government provides additional funding for limited nutrition assistance programs that serve low-wage Missourians, in addition to funding for related programs that provide job training and health education for recipients.

**The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),** formerly known as food stamps, provides assistance for low-wage Missourians to purchase food. Funding for SNAP benefits does not flow through the state budget, aside from the associated administrative costs. SNAP benefits cannot be withdrawn as cash or used to purchase alcohol, tobacco, prepared foods, or non-food items such as medicine or paper products.

*SNAP are issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and benefits are loaded directly onto EBT cards. Thus, funding for SNAP benefit is not included in Missouri’s annual budget, aside from administrative costs (such as EBT and eligibility and enrollment costs).*

SNAP served 378,373 households and 810,690 Missourians per month in FY 2016. The average benefit in FY 2016 was $260.54 per household and $121.60 per person.³

**SNAP Eligibility Requirements**⁴

- Recipients must work or participate in a work program (with exceptions for children, seniors, the disabled, and pregnant women.)
- Must meet income requirements and cannot have assets that value more than $2,250 (or $3,250 for seniors).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Gross monthly household income (130% of poverty)</th>
<th>Maximum monthly benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,307</td>
<td>$192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,760</td>
<td>$352</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,213</td>
<td>$504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$2,665</td>
<td>$640</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Food Distribution Programs** pay for the initial processing and packaging of the food and for transporting it to designated points (i.e. food banks) within each state for the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

**The Food Nutrition Program** provides nutrition information, physical activity, food safety and food budgeting education to Food Stamp eligible individuals, especially to households with children in the home, at-risk pregnant and parenting teens, youth and seniors.

**SkillUP** provides Food Stamp participants opportunities to gain skills, training or experience that will improve their employment prospects and assists them to obtain and retain sustaining employment reducing their reliance on Food Stamp benefits.
Notes

1. Missouri Office of Administration Staff

2. Local Public Health Agency Financial Review Available at:
   http://health.mo.gov/living/lpha/review16/pdf/16STATE.pdf

3. Food and Nutrition Service Program Accountability and Administration Division
   “Supplemental Nutrition assistance Program State Activity Report Fiscal Year 2016.” September 2017