



Agency Benefit Program (ABP) Background and FAQs

You, the food providers of Central Florida, know just how great the need for food is in our communities. Because of your commitment and hard work, we have been able to provide more than **370 million meals** since 1983. That's the good news. The reality is that we have only made a dent in feeding those who struggle with food insecurity. Research and recent hunger data shows us that there is still a significant gap between our neighbors who need food, and our neighbors who receive food.

Through conversations and a series of focus groups, we learned a lot about the barriers that you face, and it is clear that there isn't a one size fits all resolution. The Agency Benefit Program is Second Harvest's long-term commitment to help strengthen our network capacity. The primary purpose of the Agency Benefit Program is to get more nutritious food out to people in your communities by defining and supporting best practices for your agency over time.

What are the ABP benefits?

Our ABP pilot included capacity building equipment awards, training opportunities with Rollins College, healthy food demonstrations, nutrition and cooking resources, account credits, a new Partner Network Website, and plans for an annual partner agency conference! These benefits will continue to evolve, and many of them are dependent on our ability to fundraise significant dollars. Some benefits will be available to all agencies, while some may be targeted towards one or two specific areas.

How does it work?

As part of the Agency Benefit Program, Second Harvest Food Bank is using a classification process to recognize the capacity levels of each partner agency according to a set of impact areas. Second Harvest will focus on building the capacity of those partner agencies that have the ability to distribute more food to feed more hungry people.

Agencies have been classified based on the following areas of impact: frequency of client distribution, geographic location, compliance based on monitoring history, annual distribution volume, number of clients served monthly, storage capacity, additional client services offered and collaboration with other feeding partners.

Agencies receive points by meeting the different criteria for each area. Each color represents a specified range of scores: 75-100 points = **Blue**; 40-70 points = **Green**, 0-35 points = **Yellow**.

Is it possible to change my color group?

Yes. Changes in certain criteria at your agency may result in a new category assignment. At this time, all agencies will be rescored once per year. Maintaining current agency info with us is more important than ever before.

Sounds great! Now what?

ABP opportunities will be communicated as they're available, so be sure to remember your group color and be on the lookout for future "ABP" emails. In the meantime, our Agency Relations Team will continue to survey your capacity needs throughout the year through monitorings and our annual agency survey.

Who can I contact with questions?

Email or call any member of the Agency Relations Team with questions about the Agency Benefit Program.