

# Student Resources to Address Food Insecurity

## Clark Community Resources

### *New for Fall 2021: Official Launch of the Clark's Swipe Out Hunger Program*

[Swipe Out Hunger](#) is the leading national nonprofit committed to ending college student hunger. They work with colleges and universities, including Clark, to implement a range of anti-hunger programs across our 135+ campus network in 40 states. Swipe Out Hunger and Sodexo, our dining service provider, are partners committed to the shared goal of eliminating college student food insecurity and empowering students nationwide.

Currently enrolled and active students experiencing food insecurity can request meals using: [this short form](#). When a request is received, a member of the Dean of Students CARE Team will reach out to speak directly with a student about additional needs moving forward. This step connects a student to the Dean of Students Office in order to explore other needs and support services that may be helpful moving forward.

Students can receive up to 10 meal swipes at a time with the understanding that more swipes can be disbursed when and if needed. *This program is not meant to be substitute for a meal plan, but rather to fill an emergency gap should one exist.*

Meals are only redeemable as swipes in the Higgins Cafe or \*\*\*“swaps” at the Bistro and Jazzman’s during the academic year and not during break periods or the summer when these venues may be closed.

*\*\*\*\*What is a “Swap?” In the Bistro and Jazzman’s, items that have an “SW” on them count as a “swap.” Only those items are covered with the Swipe Out Hunger program. Generally, swaps include one entrée, sandwich or salad, plus two sides (which could include a beverage).*

## FIRM

Students can utilize the [Clark University Food Pantry](#) which is currently located on the first floor of the University Center free of charge. The Pantry is regularly restocked with fresh produce and food, as well as personal necessities. The food pantry is providing an essential service to many within the Clark community.



### Food Pantry Overview

**Where is the pantry located?**  
The food pantry is currently located in the **Rosenblatt Conference Room** in the University Center (by the testing center)

**Who can use the pantry?**  
The pantry is open for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty and staff.

**How do I access the pantry?**  
The pantry has the same hours as the Info Desk, and will be open from **7am-12:30am every day**. You do not need a Clark ID to access the pantry, or to notify anyone at the Info Desk. You can simply go to the pantry and check in using the whiteboard on the door (this is a temporary check-in system, all updates will be communicated.)



## **Support in the Community:**

[Worcester Community Fridges](#) believes having daily access to fresh food is a human right. In Worcester, 15% of families, have identified as living with food insecurity. While navigating the Covid-19 pandemic, these numbers have risen significantly within our city. Community fridges are open 24/7, leaving no barriers in the way of someone accessing free food.

[Worcester County Food Bank](#) is a resource to find the nearest food pantry or community meal program.

## **SNAP Benefits**

You may be eligible for food assistance through [the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program.

Learn how low-income college students can [qualify for SNAP in Massachusetts](#) and review [SNAP rules and rights for college students](#).

## **Connecting with the Dean of Students CARE Team**

Staff members from the [DOS CARE Team](#) are happy to meet with students and discuss other on and off-campus resources.

Students are invited to set up a meeting with one of the Dean of Students CARE Team members via their Calendly link

- Becca Kitchell, Associate Dean of Students for Student CARE: <https://calendly.com/rkitchell>
- Lamara Burgess, Director of Student Support Management: <https://calendly.com/ljburgess>