

Overview of Meat Eligibility and Regulations

SNAP Meat Eligibility

- As long as meat is safe (and intended) for **human consumption**, most meat is SNAP eligible (some exceptions)
- Fresh, frozen, dried, or canned meat are eligible
 - Game that is caught when hunting is not
- No pet food or animal feed
- No live animals **EXCEPT**
 - Shellfish
 - Fish may be purchased live at the point-of-sale as long as they are removed from the water prior to removal from the premises of the seller
 - Other animals (including birds) that are live at the point-of-sale if they are slaughtered prior to removal from the premises of the seller

USDA & FDACS Regulations

- [To sell meat at a farmers market](#) in Florida, the product must be slaughtered and prepared into retail-ready pieces (steaks, chops, packages of ground beef, etc.) under all federal inspection (check for state, county, and city regulations)
 - Amenable species (cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, or equine) are federally regulated so you have to apply for a USDA permit for processing and packaging meat if you plan to process the animals yourself OR bring the animal(s) to a USDA approved facility to be slaughtered
 - [USDA FSIS Food Inspection Requirements](#)
 - FDACS requires [Food Establishment Permit](#)– this website can help figure out what you need
 - Most likely a [Retail Food Establishment Permit](#)
 - To sell packaged meat products at a booth at a farmers market in FL, you also need a [mobile food permit](#)
 - Must have a [commissary letter of agreement](#) with an approved commissary facility that provides support services
- To sell poultry and/or eggs at a farmers market, you need a [Limited Poultry and Egg Permit](#)
 - Can only sell dressed poultry and whole egg with this permit (no additional processing of the product is allowed)
 - 20,000-bird per year limit (384 dressed poultry per week/ 30 dozen shell eggs per week); can own 1,000 laying hens annually
 - Anything over is not exempt and must be conducted under USDA-FSIS inspection
- Any questions or need help navigating the regulations, contact FDACS FoodSafety@FDACS.gov or 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) 8am-5pm

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