GetCalFresh — Code for America's Mobile-First SNAP Application for California, Tested by a 60,000-Applicant Field Experiment and Sunset in 2025

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 76/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Code for America's mobile-first GetCalFresh cut California's food-aid application from about 45 to 10 minutes and ran in all 58 counties. An LA field experiment with 60,000+ applicants found on-demand interviews nearly doubled early approvals; the tool was retired in 2025.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	4/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-12

Code for America with California Department of Social Services (CDSS) — accessed 2026-11-12

CDSS — GetCalFresh transition to BenefitsCal — accessed 2026-11-12

Giannella, Homonoff, Rino & Somerville — Administrative Burden and Procedural Denials: Experimental Evidence from SNAP (AEA 2023) — accessed 2026-11-12

Code for America — GetCalFresh launches in all 58 counties (2019) — accessed 2026-11-12

GovTech — California–Code for America food-stamps partnership goes statewide — accessed 2026-11-12

Cite this — Evidoria. *GetCalFresh — Code for America's Mobile-First SNAP Application for California, Tested by a 60,000-Applicant Field Experiment and Sunset in 2025*. Persistent ID: c69b71b4-ae7b-42ed-bde5-195e9456e079.