



3SquaresVT for Retailers: Equipment



For questions about Vermont's EBT contract, contact:

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Getting equipped

Once you have been authorized as a 3SquaresVT retailer, you will need to get the equipment necessary to process 3SquaresVT transactions. The state's EBT contractor will contact you within several days after your USDA/FNS application is approved to discuss the different options for processing 3SquaresVT sales.

Choosing the best option for your store

The best option for your store will depend on your electronic capability, volume of 3SquaresVT sales, and debit and credit card usage. Each option and some important considerations are listed on the next few pages.





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Option #1: Use state-supplied EBT equipment

- The state's EBT contractor will reimburse you for the monthly leasing fee for the EBT equipment and the fee for an added phone line, if necessary. After one year, the state contractor will continue to reimburse you as long as your monthly 3SquaresVT sales average over \$100.
- You must have or install a phone line (a residential access phone will do). This phone line can either be a dedicated line or it can be your store's all-purpose telephone line.
- You will not have any EBT transaction fees.
- You cannot add credit/debit capability to the state-supplied equipment. If you already process credit/debit in your store, you will then have two machines: one for EBT and one for debit/credit transactions. In accordance with your commercial debit/credit supplier, you will pay your usual service fees for making those transactions.





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Option #2: Add EBT capability to commercial debit/credit equipment

- Check with your bank to be sure that their debit/credit processor can also process EBT transactions.
- There is a monthly service fee. If you already have debit/credit equipment, most suppliers do not charge an additional fee to add EBT.
- Depending on the supplier, you may have to pay a monthly fee for the equipment.
- You will have to pay for any EBT transaction fees, the same as you would for debit/credit transactions.
- You will have one machine for debit/credit and EBT transactions.
- A phone line is required for debit/credit and EBT transactions.



Note:

A paper voucher system is available for retailers without the technology or resources to process 3SquaresVT sales electronically.

