DELIVERY SERVICES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

There are a number of ways that you can get groceries, pharmaceuticals and restaurant food delivered to your door. Here are the services and how they work. There is usually a charge for these services.

GENERAL

Instacart

What they do: They will shop for you at local markets and drug stores and deliver. Good for large grocery orders.

How to contact them: www.instacart.com to set up an account.

What they charge: A small service fee plus substantial tip for delivery (15-20% of order total).

Where they work: There is a list of groceries served on the Instacard web page. Many of the local markets have discontinued their own delivery and use Instacart. Call the market and ask.

How do you order? On line at the Instacart web site. Place your order for one store. You can only order from one store at a time; a second store will require a second order.

How long does it take? That varies from day to day; it may take from one day to as long as a week.

Are they reliable? Yes, though your shopper will often substitute items if they can’t find what you ordered.

Note: The Instacart app can be helpful to check on your order.

Fresh Direct

Fresh Direct is an on-line grocer.

What they do: They will shop for you and deliver your order of groceries, prepared food, and liquor. Especially good for large grocery orders.

How to contact them: www.freshdirect.com. You will need an account.

What they charge: Varies. In Manhattan, $5.99 for a $30 minimum order. You will also be prompted to add a tip for delivery when you check out.

How do you order: On line at the Fresh Direct web site.

How long does it take? It can be difficult to schedule a time slot for delivery. Those available may vary from one day to as long as a week. If none available, keep trying.

Are they reliable? Yes.
Invisible Hands Deliver

**What they do:** These are volunteers who will shop for you in local stores.

**How to contact them:** [www.invisiblehandsdeliver.com](http://www.invisiblehandsdeliver.com); 732-639-1579

**What they charge:** They don’t charge.

**Where they work:** Enter your zip code on their web page.

**How do you order:** When you fill out your order on line, indicate how you want to pay for them and you will be prompted to choose the items you want to order.

**How long does it take:** Not long.

**Are they reliable:** Yes.

Duane Reade and CVS

**What they do:** Deliver health and beauty products.

**How to contact them:** For Duane Reade, go to [www.walgreens.com](http://www.walgreens.com). You will need to establish an account.

For CVS, go to [www.instacart.com](http://www.instacart.com) (see above).

**How do you order:** On line.

**How long does it take:** Several days.

GROCERIES

Most grocery stores have early shopping hours for seniors. They may or may not deliver. If you do not want to shop in person, many groceries are now working through Instacart (see above).

RESTAURANTS

**Note:** Many restaurants have their own delivery people, but some do not. We have been told by many restaurants that if you call in your order directly to the restaurant, and it meets the minimum, they will deliver free. But if delivery doesn’t come to your door (e.g., if it’s left in the lobby), don’t forget to add a tip when you place your order!

You can also order on line from the following services:

Grubhub
What they do: Deliver meals from local restaurants, including casual restaurants such as MacDonald’s and Six Corners Marketplace.

How to contact them: www.grubhub.com.

What they charge: $10 minimum. No extra charge; add a tip to your order.

Where they work: Enter your zip code to see what restaurants they serve.

How do you order: On line at the grubhub web site.

How long does it take: Perhaps an hour.

Are they reliable: Yes.

Seamless

What they do: Deliver meals from local restaurants.

How to contact them: www.seamless.com.

What they charge: $10 minimum; free delivery. Add a tip when you order.

Where they work: Enter your address on line.

How do you order: On line at the seamless web site. You will need to open an account.

How long does it take: 30-40 minutes.

Are they reliable: Yes.

Ubereats

What they do: Deliver meals from local restaurants.

How to contact them: www.ubereats.com.

What they charge: Usually $0 or 99 cents. Add a tip to your order, either at the time of ordering or afterward, when you are asked to evaluate the service.

Where they work: Enter your address on line.

How do you order: On line at the ubereats web site or by phone. You will need an Uber account.

How long does it take: Probably less than an hour.

Are they reliable: Yes.