

## **Amazon-owned Whole Foods ends partnership with Instacart**

December 16 2018, by Ben Tobin, Usa Today

Whole Foods will no longer be working with Instacart, the grocery delivery company announced.

The move comes a little over a year after Amazon acquired Whole Foods for \$13.7 billion. Amazon has its own delivery service called AmazonFresh.

Whole Foods and Instacart began working together in 2014. Two years later, they signed a <u>deal</u> for Instacart to become the chain's exclusive delivery carrier.

Instacart currently employs 1,415 couriers, which it calls "in-store shoppers," across 76 Whole Foods locations.

About 75 percent of the <u>employees</u> will be transferred to other locations, Instacart Founder and CEO Apoorva Mehta said in a statement. However, the remaining 25 percent—about 350—will be laid off and will receive three-month separation packages as well as tenure-based compensation.

Instacart will begin winding down its operations at Whole Foods on Feb. 10 and exit the marketplace in the succeeding months, the company said.

"For our in-store Whole Foods shoppers who are personally impacted by this <u>news</u>, we're deeply committed to being transparent about what this means for you and plan to share any updates with you as they become



available," Mehta said.

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Citation: Amazon-owned Whole Foods ends partnership with Instacart (2018, December 16) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <a href="https://phys.org/news/2018-12-amazon-owned-foods-partnership-instacart.html">https://phys.org/news/2018-12-amazon-owned-foods-partnership-instacart.html</a>

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