

# Quick Reference

## SNAP Eligibility – Updated October 2023 – September 2024

Purpose	Income Limits		Deductions	Resource Limits	Resource Exclusions	Countable Resources	Eligibility Factors
The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 authorizes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP is designed to increase the limited food purchasing power of low-income Households and thus alleviate hunger and malnutrition.	<b>Gross Income Limits Apply First to Households with no Elderly or Disabled Members (Regular Households)</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>20% of earned income.</li><li>Standard deduction</li><li>Farm loss</li><li>Childcare</li><li>Medical cost incurred by aged or disabled member.</li><li>Child support payments if legally obligated</li><li>Shelter cost</li></ul>	\$2,750  \$4,250* if one member is individual with disability or age 60 or older	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A home</li><li>Some non-home properties if income producing or determined to be inaccessible</li><li>Life insurance</li><li>Burial spaces (one per household member)</li><li>Irrevocable burial arrangements</li><li>Tax Preferred retirement accounts</li><li>Certain Educational Savings accounts</li> <li>1 vehicle</li><li>Any vehicle used for transporting physically disable member</li><li>Income-producing vehicles</li><li>Vehicles used for self-employment</li><li>\$4,650 of value of vehicle for each employed person and student attending school</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cash on hand and in bank and credit unions (less income received that month)</li><li>Stocks and bonds</li><li>Real property other than the home (unless excluded)</li><li>Mutual funds</li><li>Savings certificates</li><li>Some vehicles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Residency in the state</li><li>U.S. citizenship or legal alien status</li><li>Work registration</li><li>Social Security Number</li><li>Cooperation with child support</li></ul>  <

## SNAP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Residency / Citizenship** - Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is limited to U.S. Citizens and certain legally admitted non-citizens.
2. **Lawful SNAP Household** - A household is normally composed of individuals who live together and purchase food and prepare meals together. The following individuals may not participate in the Program: boarders, ineligible students, disqualified persons, and residents of certain institutions.
3. **Work Registration** - All able-bodied individuals aged 16 to 59 who are not otherwise exempt must register for work. Exemptions are granted for school attendance, full-time employment, disability, care of a dependent under the age of six, and care of a disabled dependent of any age. People who quit their jobs or who intentionally reduce their working hours to less than 30 hours per week without good cause are subject to sanction.
4. **Requirement to Work** - All able-bodied adults between the ages of 18 through 52 who are not pregnant, or the parent of a minor dependent child must work at least twenty hours per week or participate in a work program. Any individual who fails to comply with this requirement for at least three months out of a designated 36-month period will be ineligible to receive SNAP benefits for the remainder of the 36-month period. The disqualification applies to the individual, not the entire household, and may be lifted if the individual complies with the requirement or becomes exempt from the requirement. *(The State waives this requirement in certain areas and applies the personal exemptions granted by Food and Nutrition Service in other areas.)*
5. **Resources** - The value of non-exempt resources cannot exceed \$4250 for households with at least one member aged 60 or older or disabled. The resource limit is \$2,750 for all other households.
6. **Social Security Number (SSN)** - Each household member who wishes to participate in the Program is required to provide a SSN or to apply for one before they are allowed to participate. Household members who do not comply with this requirement are disqualified from participation in the Program.
7. **Cooperation with Child Support** – Parents applying for SNAP are required to cooperate with the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE). Cooperation means providing the complete information or taken the necessary actions to obtain support for dependent children.
8. **Income** - Households containing an individual with disability member or a member aged 60 or older must have a net income at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines. All other households must have both a gross income at or below 130% of the federal poverty guidelines and a net income at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines.

### Example 1:

A household consisting of a mother and two school-age children submits a SNAP application. The mother works 30 hours each week and makes \$11.00 per hour. Her rent is \$450 per month, and she pays the following utility bills - electricity, natural gas, and telephone. The household is not entitled to a medical deduction and the mother does not have to pay childcare.

The maximum monthly benefit for a household of 3 is \$766. This household is entitled to receive a monthly benefit of \$545.

### Example 2:

A household consisting of a father, mother and two pre-school age children submits a SNAP application. The father works 40 hours each week and makes \$11.00 per hour. Their rent is \$450 per month, and they pay the following utility bills - electricity, natural gas, and telephone. The household is not entitled to a medical deduction and the mother cares for the children while the father works.

The maximum monthly benefit for a household of 4 is \$973. This household is entitled to receive a monthly benefit of \$572.