

Apply for

SNAP

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



Who is eligible for SNAP?

Individuals and families with low incomes, people who are homeless or living in group-home or shelter settings are eligible for SNAP. Resources such as bank accounts or cash on hand are not counted for most SNAP households. People with disabilities or who are age 60+ and need help purchasing and preparing food may be eligible for their own individual SNAP grant separate from the rest of their household.

How are benefits calculated?

Your SNAP amount is calculated by household size, income, and expenses. Individuals, families, and groups of unrelated people who live together and "purchase and prepare food together" are considered one household for SNAP.

Reporting Requirements

You must report any changes in address, income, resources, housing costs, and household size within 10 days of the change. If you are working, you will have to report changes to your income to your caseworker.

Work Requirements

Work requirements for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs), ages 19-49, are suspended through August 31, 2024. ABAWDs are required to work or participate in an approved work program at least 80 hours in the last 30 days to receive SNAP for more than 3 months in a fixed 3-year period. Starting September 1, 2024, Pennsylvania will start enforcing time limits for receipt of SNAP benefits for all ABAWDs. Individuals ages 50-52 will be added to the ABAWD work requirements on September 1, 2024, and individuals ages 53-54 will be added to ABAWD work requirements on October 1, 2024.

How do I apply?

To apply for SNAP / Food Stamps, call or visit your local County Assistance Office for a paper application. Applications may also be filed online through COMPASS at: www.compass.state.pa.us After completing your application, you will receive a written response about your eligibility for SNAP within 30 days.

compass.state.pa.us

What do I do if I am denied benefits or my benefits change?

Contact Summit Legal Aid. We may be able to help you.

If you are denied Food Stamp/SNAP benefits, you can appeal upon receiving the written notice of denial. You must appeal within 90 days of the mailing date of the written notice. If you are already receiving benefits, you have 15 days to appeal proposed changes in benefits. If you continue to get benefits and lose the appeal, you may be required to repay the used benefits. If the issue is unable to be worked out with a case worker, a hearing will be held in order to determine whether or not benefits will be issued, or continued.



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