



NEW- Greater Access to SNAP for College Students!



Are you a college student who is struggling to afford food? You might be eligible for SNAP benefits of up to \$234/month during COVID. Students with spouses or children may be eligible for more.

Due to the pandemic, Congress has temporarily expanded SNAP eligibility for college students. While some college students were eligible for SNAP before now, this expansion will help many more.

Who is Newly Eligible?

Students in one of these two situations now qualify:

1

The student is eligible to participate in work study as determined by their school.

- Under regular SNAP rules, only students who participate in work study are eligible. But, since many of these jobs are not available now, students must simply be eligible for work study.

or

2

The student has an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$0 in the current academic year. (Your EFC can be found on your student aid report).

- Note: students receiving the maximum Pell grant have an EFC of \$0.

You may not need to prove that your EFC is \$0, but you must let the CAO know. You can do that in the Comments section of the COMPASS application. If you are asked for proof, you should provide it if you can. If you can't get it, Community Legal Services can help -- call (215) 981-3700.

Students must also meet all other SNAP eligibility criteria.
(See other side for eligibility criteria)

How long will these new rules be in place?

The new, temporary expansion will last through the public health emergency- likely into 2022.



Connect with us on Twitter: @GPCAHunger and @CLSphila



NEW- Greater Access to SNAP for College Students!



Some important SNAP rules to know:

What if I live with other people?

- If you are age 22 or older and live with your parents but you buy and prepare more than half of your food separately from your parents, you can apply for SNAP for just yourself.
- If you are under age 22 and live with your parents, you cannot get SNAP separately from your parents. This is true even if you don't share food. If your parents currently get SNAP, they should ask DHS to add you. If your family does not get SNAP, your parents can apply for SNAP as a household if you meet the income guidelines below.
- If you have roommates but buy and prepare more than half of your food separately from your roommates, you can apply for SNAP for just yourself. If you buy and prepare most of your food together (you share the food you purchased), you must apply for SNAP with your roommates – and they must report their income and meet other rules.

Income Guidelines

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MONTHLY INCOME (Before Taxes)
1	\$1,702
2	\$2,299
3	\$2,896
4	\$3,494
5	\$4,091
Each Add'l Person Add	+\$598

Financial aid does not count as income for SNAP -- but almost all other income does. If you have a question about counted income, call 215-430-0556.

How do I apply?

County Assistance Offices remain closed. To apply for SNAP you can:

- Fill out an application at www.compass.state.pa.us.
- Philadelphia: Call BenePhilly at 833-373-5868 for help with SNAP & other benefits over the phone.
- If you live in Philadelphia, Bucks, & Chester Counties: Fill out a pre-screening form at www.hungercoalition.org/snaphelp or call 215-430-0556 and leave a message. The Coalition Against Hunger will contact you to fill out an application over the phone.

* If you think you qualify for SNAP but are turned down, call Community Legal Services at (215) 981-3700 for help.

Even if you don't meet one of the new rules, you may still qualify. Students can get SNAP if they have young children, have a disability, are working 20 hours a week or more, are in community college, or are in school less than half time, among other exceptions. For more information, see this thorough overview of SNAP eligibility for college students by our fellow hunger fighters at Just Harvest.



Connect with us on Twitter: @GPCAHunger and @CLSphila