

SNAP (formerly the Food Stamp Program) BENEFITS APPLICATION

SNAP BENEFITS OVERVIEW

What is SNAP?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP is a nutrition program. Eligible households receive a debit-like card to purchase food items at supermarkets, convenience stores and pharmacies. SNAP benefits give low-income households extra monies for food so that cash can be spent on other necessary items such as fuel and medicine.

Who is Eligible?

Low-income households containing certain citizens and legal non-citizens may be eligible for SNAP benefits.

Steps in the Application Process:

- 1. Once the application is received by DTA, it will be reviewed and assigned to a case worker.
- 2. An application package containing SNAP brochures and information materials will be mailed to the applicant.
- 3. The case worker will attempt to contact the applicant by phone within 48 hours to schedule an application interview.

Note: If there is no phone number or the case worker cannot reach the applicant by phone, an appointment letter will be mailed.

- 4. The applicant must complete an application interview with the case worker. During the interview, the case worker will review the information received and ask additional questions.
- 5. The case worker will screen the application for expedited benefits.
- 6. The case worker will issue an EBT card if required.
- 7. The case worker will tell the applicant what proofs will be needed to complete the application. A letter requesting necessary proofs will also be mailed to the applicant.
- 8. Within 30 days, the case worker will make a decision on the application.
 - If the applicant is eligible for SNAP benefits, an approval letter will be mailed.

- If the applicant is not eligible for SNAP benefits, did not complete the application process or did not submit mandatory verifications a denial letter will be mailed to the applicant.
- If the application is denied for failure to submit mandatory verifications. The applicant has an additional 30 days to submit the missing verifications

What Proofs Will Be Needed?

- ✓ Identification of the head of household
- ✓ Proof of residence
- ✓ Social Security Numbers for all household members applying.
- Proof of student status for any household member attending school beyond the secondary level
- ✓ Proof of Income
 - DTA will request the last four pay stubs, direct deposit slips, copies of checks, or an official statement of the amount and frequency of payments.
- ✓ Expense Information (optional but will help to maximize benefits)
 - Statement of child care costs for children or adult dependents that cannot care for themselves.
 - Receipts for housing costs including rent or mortgage and utilities.
 - Medical receipts for household members who are seniors (*age 60 or older*) or disabled.
 - Court ordered child support payments for children not in the home
- ✓ Proof of Non-citizen Status

For more information about SNAP

Call the Food Stamp Benefits Hotline at:

1-866-950-3663

Or

Visit: www.gettingfoodstamps.org