

Is your family eligible for SNAP?

Low income families and single adults may be eligible for nutrition assistance through SNAP, (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps) through the guidelines below. If anyone in your household is elderly or disabled guidelines may differ slightly. Please call 1-866-306-0270 to find out more.

There are two steps to eligibility; a gross income and a net income test.

Step 1: The Gross Income Test

You might be eligible for SNAP if your household's **monthly gross income** is at or below the amount in the chart based on household size.

Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each additional
Gross Income	\$1,680	\$2,268	\$2,858	\$3,447	\$4,035	\$4,625	\$590

If you meet this income guideline, go to step 2.

Step 2: The Net Income Test

To get a monthly nutrition benefit, your **net income** (gross household income minus allowable deductions) must be less than the following chart. The SNAP outreach project staff can help you determine if you meet the net income test. You can call the SNAP outreach project at 1-866-306-0270 to find out more about SNAP benefits. The Department of Human Services must make the final eligibility determination.

The following deductions will be taken to determine your net income:

- A standard deduction based on the size of your household
- An earned income deduction (20% of earned income)
- The cost of child/dependent care
- Court ordered child support paid to another household
- A portion of your shelter expenses up to a standard amount.
- Households where someone is elderly or disabled may also deduct a portion of their medical expenses

Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each additional
Net income*	\$1,055	\$1,373	\$1,692	\$2,018	\$2,362	\$2,708	\$319

* Monthly income has standard deduction added to 100% federal poverty level.

1-866-306-0270 RI SNAP Outreach Project
www.EatBetterToday.com



SNAP Facts

Knowing the facts about Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program is a great way to learn about your eligibility when applying for benefits.

SNAP provides extra help to purchase food. It is a supplement to income and may free up cash normally spent on food for non-food purchases. Benefits are placed in an account each month that you use to purchase food at a grocery store using an EBT debit card. There are no more paper coupons and using the card allows you to purchase more food while protecting your privacy.

Did You Know?

- **Your source of income does not affect SNAP eligibility.**
 - You can have a job and still get SNAP.
 - Unemployed, single people, without children may also be eligible for benefits for a limited time.
 - You may still be eligible for SNAP after you leave cash assistance.
- **Your housing situation does not affect SNAP eligibility.**
 - You can own a house and still qualify for SNAP.
 - You can get SNAP benefits if you are homeless. You do not need an address.
 - You may still be eligible for SNAP if you live in a group home or shelter.
 - You can own a car and still qualify for SNAP.
- **Anyone who applies and qualifies will receive benefits.**
 - You aren't taking money away from anyone who is needier than you.
 - Everyone gets benefits within 30 days. Benefits may be available within 7 days, depending on level of need.
- **You don't have to leave your house to apply for SNAP.**
 - You may call to receive an application by mail, and, once the application is completed, mail it back to DHS.
 - You may apply on-line, www.foodstamps.ri.gov.
 - A telephone interview may be conducted if you are unable to visit a DHS office or you may have someone apply on your behalf.
- **Legal immigrants, who meet the income and resource guidelines, may be eligible for SNAP benefits.**
 - Adults must have legal status for 5 years. There is no waiting period for children or disabled individuals.
 - Applying for benefits doesn't hurt your chances of becoming a citizen.
 - Children of immigrants may be eligible even if someone in the household is not eligible.

For more information, call the Department of Human Services at 462-5300 or the SNAP Outreach Project toll free at 1-866-306-0270.