

SNAP Eligibility for Seniors and Disabled Individuals.

Low income elders (age 60+) and disabled individuals may be eligible for nutrition assistance through SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps). Some senior applicants will have to meet an asset test and an income test and others will just have to meet the guidelines in step two.

Step 1: The Asset Test

If your monthly gross income is below the amount in the chart, or if no one in your house is over 60 skip to step 2, you do not have an asset test.

If your gross income is at or above the amount in the chart, based on household size, and you are over 60 years old, you must have **less than \$3,000** in cash, savings, stocks and bonds in order to be eligible for SNAP benefits.

Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each additional
Monthly Gross Income	\$1,816	\$2,452	\$3,090	\$3,726	\$4,362	\$5,000	\$638

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 if you might be eligible for 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
- Medical expenses in excess of \$35 a month
- A portion of your shelter expenses.

Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each additional
Monthly 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.

Call 1-866-306-0270 to find out more!



SNAP Facts for Elderly/Disabled Individuals



Knowing the facts about SNAP is a great way to learn about your eligibility when applying for food stamp 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?

- Over 70% of RI seniors get more than \$16 a month in SNAP benefits.
- If everyone in the household is elderly or disabled and on a fixed income, you may have a 2 year recertification period.
- You can have savings and still qualify for SNAP.
- You can own a house and still qualify for SNAP benefits.
- SNAP is an entitlement program. Anyone who applies and qualifies will receive benefits! You aren't taking money away from anyone who is needier than you.
- You don't have to leave your house to apply for SNAP:
 - You may call to receive an application by mail, or have someone else pick up an application for you. Once the application is completed, you may mail it to DHS or have someone bring it in for you.
 - You may apply on-line, www.foodstamps.ri.gov.
 - A telephone interview may be conducted if you are unable to visit a DHS office.
- You may still be eligible for SNAP benefits if you live in a group home where meals are already prepared.

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