

# SNAP Facts

## Concerning the Disabled

### **SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.**

SNAP is the new name of the Food Stamp program and its main purpose is to provide low income households with additional resources to purchase nutritious food. SNAP increases a recipients ability to buy more nutritious foods by supplementing their food budget in order to maintain their health.

### **Individuals living in group homes can be eligible for SNAP benefits.**

Disabled persons who live in certain non-profit group living arrangements may be eligible for SNAP benefits, even though the group home prepares their meals for them. If this is not the case for you, talk to your caseworker or call you local SNAP office about your particular living situation. You may still be eligible for benefits.

### **Documenting medical expenses that you pay for can increase your benefit amount.**

Medical expenses that exceed \$35 a month may be deducted from your income unless an insurance company or someone who is not a household member pays for them.

### **You can get SNAP even if you own a car or a house or have savings in a bank.**

For most people, resources no longer make you ineligible for SNAP. That means that the value of your car or house, life insurance or savings account does not impact your eligibility for SNAP.

### **You do not have to go to the DHS office to apply for SNAP benefits.**

Interested applicants can apply on-line at [www.foodstamps.ri.gov](http://www.foodstamps.ri.gov) or call our toll free number (1-866-306-0270) and request a paper application that can be mailed to the Department of Human Services. Each new application requires an interview with a DHS staff person, but applicants can request this interview to be conducted by telephone.

### **There are enough SNAP benefits for everyone who is eligible.**

SNAP is a federally funded program that is budgeted to help EVERYONE who is eligible. Anyone who qualifies for benefits will receive them. Receiving benefits doesn't take away from others in need. In fact, SNAP benefits help everyone; you, your grocer and the local economy.

### **Application assistance IS available.**

We know that the application process can be difficult, but the benefits are well worth it. The average amount received by a family in RI is \$91 per month per person. Additionally, SNAP Outreach workers can assist in making the process a bit easier. Workers are available at community agencies throughout the state. Call us if you need assistance completing your application.

**Still have questions about SNAP?  
For more information call toll free:  
1-866-306-0270**