

CTFB HELPS YOU APPLY FOR SNAP



What is SNAP?

SNAP benefits, the new name for food stamps, can help you buy food at most grocery stores and some farmers' markets.

Benefits are loaded monthly onto the Lone Star Card, which works similarly to a debit or credit card.

Did you know?

- You can receive SNAP even if you are working, receiving unemployment, or receiving Social Security, as long as your monthly income is below the eligibility limit.
- The average monthly benefit is \$120.
- Receiving benefits does not take away from other people's benefits.



What are the eligibility requirements?

You may qualify if your household's gross monthly income is less than...



For each additional household member add **\$596**

Income guidelines are valid through September 30, 2026. HHSC determines eligibility on a case-by-case basis.

How does the application process work?

You can submit an application online via YourTexasBenefits.com or through the mail. If you would like help with the application process, you can call the Food Bank helpline or visit our website to make an appointment with one of our Social Services team members. We'll find a convenient time and location to meet with you for 30-45 minutes to complete your application and submit all the required documents to HHSC. Once we submit your application, HHSC should contact you in 1-2 weeks to set up a phone interview, where they'll complete your application by asking you about any additional information they need about your case. HHSC has 30 days to make a decision on your case after receiving your application.

The Central Texas Food Bank can assist you in applying for SNAP, TANF, CHIP, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program and Healthy Texas Women. This FAQ sheet will answer questions you have about SNAP and the application process.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long do SNAP Benefits Last?

Depending on your situation, benefits can last anywhere from 3 months to 3 years before they have to be renewed. HHSC (the state department that administers SNAP) will send you a letter when it's time to renew. If you would like help with the renewal process, you can call the Food Bank helpline or visit our website to make an appointment with one of our Social Services team members.

What documents do you need to apply?

- Photo ID
- Social Security Card (For all household members)
- Proof of income (Check stubs, records of child support paid/received, SSI award letter, etc.)
- Current bills (Rent, utilities, and phone)
- Current bank statement for all accounts in your name
- Document confirming your home address

What if someone doesn't have one of these forms?

Depending on your situation, alternate kinds of verification do exist.

Can non-citizens receive SNAP?

Documented immigrants can receive SNAP if they have been Legal Permanent Residents (Green Card holders) for 5+ years or are children (age 18 and under). Refugees and asylees are exempted from the 5-year residence requirement. Ineligible immigrant parents can still receive benefits for their children. Immigration status, citizenship eligibility, and Green Card eligibility are not negatively affected by applying for or receiving SNAP.

Can a college/grad student get SNAP?

Yes, if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Working at least 20 hours per week
- (and receiving pay for the work)
- Responsible for a child under 6 years old
- Single parent with a child under 12 years old
- Participating in higher education funded by the Workforce Investment Act
- Receiving TANF benefits
- Participating in a work and training program

Does a person's criminal record affect eligibility?

In most cases, a criminal record will not disqualify a person from being eligible to receive SNAP. Previously, if a person had a drug related felony conviction, the person was ineligible for SNAP benefits. That law has changed, so individuals may now be eligible for benefits. Eligibility is determined by HHSC.

The Central Texas Food Bank can tell you if you might be eligible, answer your questions, and help you apply!

Call our toll-free and confidential helpline at: **1-855-366-3401**
Or visit our website: **centraltexasfoodbank.org/SNAP**

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