

COLLEGE STUDENT SNAP ELIGIBILITY

1. Do you make at or below this income?

In order to qualify for SNAP benefits, your *household's* gross income must be at or below the income guidelines. (200% of federal poverty level, next update will be 10/1/2026)

Persons in Family	Monthly
1	\$2,609
2	\$3,525
3	\$4,442
4	\$5,359

Add \$917/month for each additional person in the household.

If **Yes**, proceed to #2 below.

2. Are you a student of higher education?

- Are you between the ages of 18-49?
- Do you attend a higher education institution at least half-time?

YES: If you checked **both** of these boxes, **you will need to meet one of the additional student criteria listed under #3 below.**

NO: Students attending class *less* than half time and those age 50+ (or under 18 years) do **not** need to meet any additional criteria *besides* the standard [SNAP eligibility requirements](#).

3. If you said yes to both under #2, Do you meet ONE of these criteria?

- Can you speak to how your college education (4-year program, or less) is related to working in a specific job after you complete school?
- Have you been awarded work study?
- Are you working as a paid employee 20 hours a week?
- Are you unable to work due to physical or physiological difficulties?
- Participating in an approved training program found on this list? [Here's a Provider List](#)
- Caring for a child under the age of 6 or a single parent with a child under the age of 12.

Other questions to consider:

- Are you under the age of 22 and living at home with your parents or guardian?

- If yes, you must apply with your family.
- Are you a veteran?
 - Financial aid received through the Veterans Administration or private scholarships count as income.
- If you have a school meal plan, does it pay for 51% or more of your meals per week?
 - If yes**, you are **not** eligible for SNAP.



Frequently Asked Questions about SNAP from Students:

How do I know if I will be considered a student of higher education when I apply?

- ❖ If you are 18 years of age or older but under the age of 50, attending an institution of higher education (beyond high school), and enrolled at least half-time (as defined by the institution) then you must meet both the income eligibility requirements and at least one additional criteria in order to be eligible for SNAP.

Does my SNAP status change during school breaks? Do I need to report being on a school break to DHS (Oregon Department of Human Services)?

- ❖ Student enrollment status continues through school breaks (including Winter, Spring, and Summer breaks) as long as the student intends to return to school for the next term. You **DO NOT** need to report that you're on a school break to DHS but you do need to continue to meet the student eligibility criteria.

Who do I need to include on my SNAP application?

- ❖ You should report everyone in the house that buys, prepares and eats the majority of their food with you. This applies to a significant other, family member, or friend who is living in the house. If you are living with roommates and they do not buy, prepare or eat the majority of their food with you then do not list them in your SNAP application.

How do I know who I have to apply *with* to receive SNAP benefits?

- ❖ All individuals in the household who buy, prepare and eat food with you.
- ❖ If you are 21 or younger **and** living at home with your parent(s) or guardian(s) then you must include their income and information on your application **even if you do not buy, eat, and prepare food with them.**

- ❖ If you are under the age of 22 and **do not** live at home with your parent(s) or guardian(s) then you do not need to include their income or information on your application.
- ❖ If you are 22 or older and living at home with your parent(s) or guardian(s) then you only need to include their income and information on your application only **if you buy, eat, and prepare food with them.**

Could I be eligible for SNAP and own a car or a house?

- ❖ Yes! Contrary to common misconceptions you can still be eligible for SNAP and own a car and a house.

Could I be eligible for SNAP as a DACA recipient?

- ❖ Unfortunately, no. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA recipients are not eligible for programs like SNAP. However, all undocumented immigrants can apply for programs like SNAP and Women, Infants, and Children or WIC, on behalf of their citizen children.
- ❖ The general eligibility rule for non-U.S. citizens requires legal residents to have lived in the U.S. for at least five years. As of Oct. 1, 2025, the following groups of non-citizens can get SNAP benefits if they are living in the United States:
 - Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs): People with a green card who meet extra rules
 - Cuban or Haitian Entrants
 - COFA nationals living in the U.S.
 - People from Micronesia, the Marshall Islands or Palau. COFA stands for “Compacts of Free Association,” which lets people from these islands live and work in the U.S.
- ❖ Getting SNAP benefits won't affect your ability to:
 - Stay in the U.S.
 - Get Lawful Permanent Resident (green card) status
 - Keep your green card status
 - Become a U.S. citizen
 - Getting SNAP benefits does not count toward public charge.

Does applying for and/or receiving SNAP affect my ability to become a U.S. citizen?

- ❖ No. The Public Charge rule is no longer in effect. The public charge rule was an 'inadmissibility' test used by the federal government to decide if a person applying to visit or live in the United States would likely depend on one or more public benefits (including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Section 8 housing and more)

for more than 12 months, in total, within any 36-month period. You can find out more here: <https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-processes-and-procedures/public-charge>

- ❖ Please see these links for more information on resources for immigrants and refugees:
 - <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/refugees/pages/default.aspx>
 - <https://www.portland.gov/civic/immigrants/resources>

How do I submit verification documents to DHS once my application has been submitted?

- ❖ In-person interview: Bring documents with you to your in-person interview at the DHS office and submit documents during this interview.
- ❖ Over-the-phone interview: You can submit documents in person at the office, scan and email them in, take a picture of the document on your phone and email them in, or mail a photocopy in.
 - Put in the subject line on your email: YOUR NAME, VERIFICATION NUMBER (if you received one), and THE PURPOSE OF THE EMAIL (i.e. verification documents).
 - Re-state the purpose of the email in the body of the email and ask for a confirmation email stating that your verification documents have been received.

What if I'm an out-of-state or non-resident student?

- ❖ If you are a student in Oregon but a resident in another state, you will have to apply for SNAP in the state you are a resident. If you commute to school in Oregon from another state where you are a resident, you will need to apply for benefits in that state. You can also *become* a resident of Oregon and apply for SNAP benefits here.
- ❖ SNAP Benefits in Idaho
 - In Idaho, you can find more information about their SNAP program eligibility at the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare [Benefits.gov](https://www.idaho.gov/benefits) website.
 - If you have questions about SNAP in Idaho, call 1-877-456-1233.
 - Income limit in Idaho is 130% of the federal poverty level
- ❖ SNAP Benefits in Washington State
 - In Washington state (WA), SNAP is referred to as “Basic Foods”
 - Here is the link to the application for benefits in WA:
<https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>
 - If you have questions about SNAP in WA, call 1-877-501-2233.
 - Income limit in Washington is 200% of the federal poverty level
- ❖ SNAP Benefits in California
 - In California, SNAP is referred to as “CalFresh”.

- Here is the link to their website: <https://calfresh.dss.ca.gov/food/>
- Income limit in California is 200% of the federal poverty level

***Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

Online Application: <https://one.oregon.gov/>

List of Oregon DHS Self Sufficiency Offices:
<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/Pages/office-finder.aspx>

Who to Call?

**Applications: Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)
ONE Customer Service Center: 800-699-9075**

**Public Information Resource: 211 Info - *se habla Español* -
Dial 211 - or - call 866-698-6155**

**Questions that you still have - we are advocates for SNAP:
Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon: 503-595-5501**