

**A change in federal law has made more students temporarily eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).** This document provides information about which students may be eligible under the new, temporary exemptions, and where you can get more information.

### **Background on New, *Temporary* Student Exemptions**

Under regular SNAP rules, students enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education are not eligible for SNAP unless they meet one of the [exemptions](#). However, the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021](#), temporarily expands SNAP eligibility to also include students who either:

1. Are eligible to participate in state or federally financed work study during the regular school year, as determined by the institution of higher education, or
2. Have an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$0 in the current academic year.

Beginning on Jan. 16, 2021, students who meet one of the two criteria outlined above may receive SNAP if they meet all other financial and non-financial SNAP eligibility criteria. The new, temporary exemptions will be in effect until 30 days after the COVID-19 public health emergency is lifted. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will update [this webpage](#) when the COVID-19 public health emergency ends.

Under regular SNAP rules, only students who actually *participate* in state or federally funded work study are eligible. However, the new, temporary exemption, expands SNAP eligibility to students who are *eligible* to participate in work study during the regular school year, without the requirement that you actually participate.

You can find verification of your eligibility to participate in a work study program on the financial aid award letter from your institution of higher education, or by contacting your institution of higher education.

You can find verification of an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$0 on the financial aid award letter or Student Aid Report (SAR), or by contacting your institution of higher education.

### **How to Apply**

To find out how to apply, or for other questions about your SNAP eligibility, contact your local SNAP office. SNAP State agencies administer the program, process applications, and determine eligibility. Contact information for SNAP State agencies and local offices can be found in the [SNAP State Directory](#).

### **Further Information**

The new, temporary exemptions do not impact any other student exemptions. All current student eligibility exemptions remain in effect. **Students must still meet all other SNAP financial and non-financial criteria in order to be eligible for benefits.**

More information about the new, temporary exemptions can be found [here](#).

More information about student eligibility for SNAP can be found [here](#).

More information about SNAP eligibility can be found [here](#).