



D.C. Hunger Solutions

Ending hunger in the nation's capital



SNAP 101

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July 2026

In the chat, please share:

- Your name and pronouns
- Whether you're joining as a resident or provider
- A question you're hoping will be answered in today's training



Please note that this training is being recorded.



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Training Objectives

#1

- Define SNAP

#2

- Understand the food access landscape in D.C.

#3

- Explain SNAP eligibility criteria, allowable foods, and how to apply

#4

- Understand SNAP work requirements and how to meet them

#5

- Know how to contact D.C. Hunger Solutions and what we can help with

Introduction to D.C. Hunger Solutions

Founded as an initiative of the Food Research and Action Center in 2002, D.C. Hunger Solutions seeks to create a hunger-free community and improve the nutrition, health, economic security, and well-being of low-income District residents by:

- Improving public policies to end hunger, reduce poverty, promote nutrition, and increase the availability of healthy, affordable food in low-income areas;
- Maximizing participation in all federal nutrition programs; and
- Educating the public about both the stark reality of hunger's existence in the midst of plenty and the real opportunities for effective solutions.



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Common Scenarios DCHS Can Help With

- "I'm not sure if I'm eligible for SNAP and need to be prescreened"
- "I think I'm eligible, but I'm not sure how to apply"
- "I already have SNAP, but need to submit my mid-cert or re-cert"
- "My SNAP benefits decreased and I'm not sure why"
- "I need to report that I've moved, started a new job, had a baby, etc."
- "I think someone stole my SNAP card"
- "I want to enroll in WIC."



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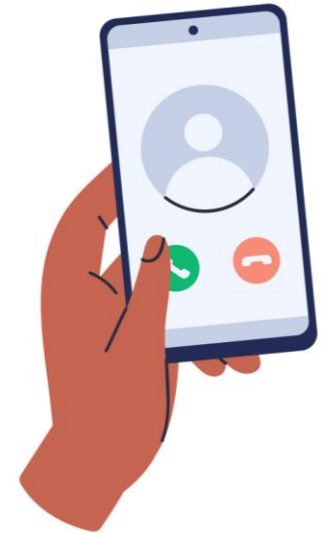
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How to Connect with DCHS

Clients can connect with DCHS in the following ways:

1. Call us: 202-640-1088
2. Email us: info@dchunger.org
3. Fill out the [online form](#) on our website
4. At an outreach event!

Note: Providers and advocates can refer clients to us directly by emailing us the client's name and contact information.



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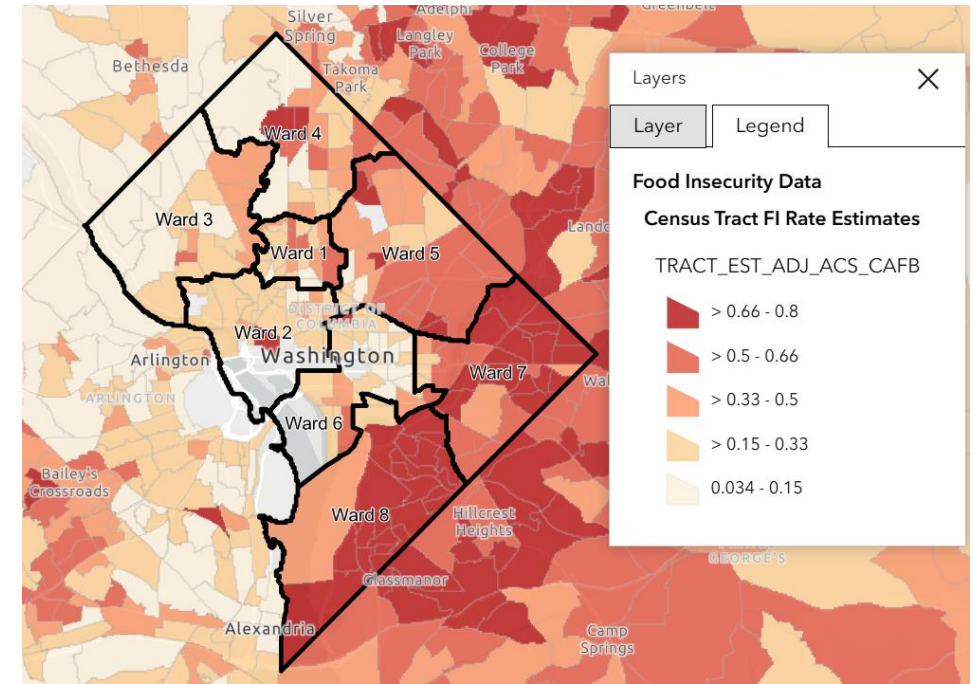
D.C. Landscape

www.dchunger.org - (202) 640-1088 - info@dchunger.org



Food Insecurity in D.C.

- **693,645** people live in the District
- Latest data from USDA shows that **12.1%** of households are food insecure
- **17%** of older adults are food insecure
- Grocery store access is highly uneven
 - Wards 7 & 8 have **just 8 of the city's 81 grocery stores**



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SNAP in Washington D.C.

- Just over **132,000** D.C. residents participate in SNAP
- Average benefit allotment:
 - **\$197 per month** (~\$6.50 per person, per day)
- SNAP is an economic stimulus program
 - For every \$1 spent on SNAP, \$1.80 of economic activity is generated.



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SNAP Basics

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What is SNAP?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal nutrition program that provides monthly benefits on an EBT card to eligible individuals.



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What you can buy with SNAP

- Breads and Cereals
- Fruits and Vegetables
- Meats, Fish, and Poultry
- Dairy Products
- Seeds and Plants that Produce Food
- All items fresh, frozen, or shelf stable
- Must be “unprepared”



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What you cannot buy with SNAP

- Alcohol and Tobacco products
- Vitamins, Medicines, and Supplements
- Hot Foods
- Foods that can be “eaten in the store”
- Cleaning Products
- Hygiene Products/Supplies
- Pet Food*

*Unless SNAP recipient has a medically recognized service animal



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Stores that accept SNAP online

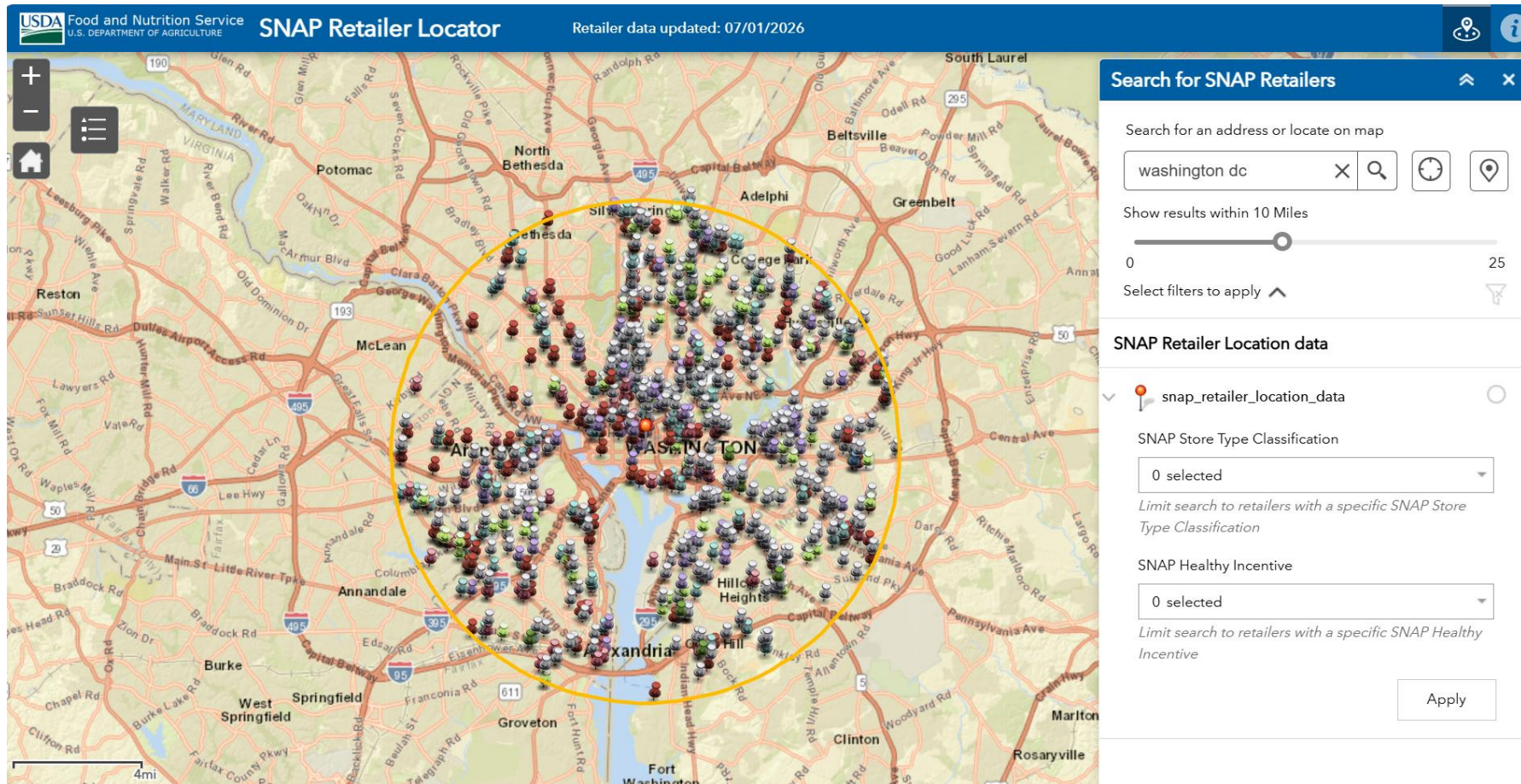
- ALDI
- Amazon
- Costco
- CVS Banners
- Dashmart
- Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)
- Dollar General
- Family Dollar
- Giant of Maryland
- Go-Puff
- Safeway
- Shoppers Food Warehouse
- Target
- Thrive Market
- Walgreens
- WaWa
- Wegmans
- Whole Foods



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SNAP Retail Locator



SNAP Retail Locator

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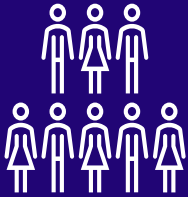
SNAP Eligibility

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SNAP Eligibility is based on...

Household Size



Household Expenses



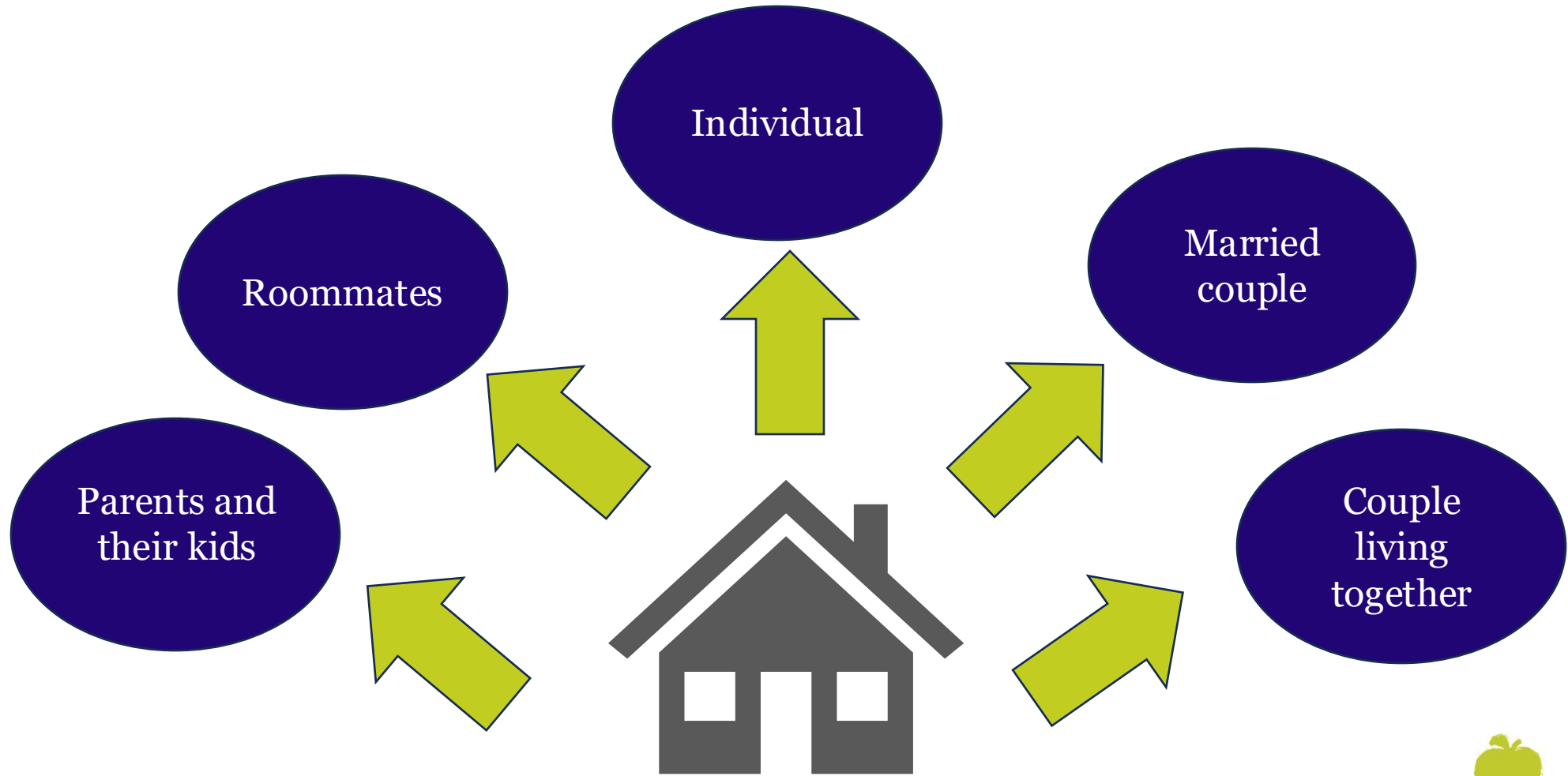
Household Income



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What is a SNAP Household?



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What is a SNAP Household?

- A group of people who live together, buy food as a group, and prepare meals as a group. They do not have to be related.
- There are many scenarios in which more than one SNAP household can share the same residence.
- A SNAP household does not necessarily need a permanent mailing address.



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What is a SNAP Household? (cont.)

The following people **must** be considered a household, even if they purchase food separately:

- Spouses who live together
- Parents and children under 22, even if the child is married or has a child of their own, who live together



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Knowledge Check!

A SNAP household is
made up of people
who _____, _____,
and _____.



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Knowledge Check!

A SNAP household is
made up of people
who live, buy, and
prepare food
together.



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SNAP Rules for Immigrant Households

Currently, to be eligible for SNAP, individuals must be U.S. citizens or meet specific qualified non-citizen criteria:

- Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs/green card holders) who:
 - Have held LPR status for at least 5 years, or
 - Have 40 qualifying work quarters, or
 - Are receiving disability-related benefits (e.g., for blindness or disability), or
 - Are under age 18 (no 5-year waiting period), or
 - Meet certain additional criteria (e.g., military connection)



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- Asylees and refugees (eligible without a 5-year waiting period)*
- Other qualified non-citizens including:
 - Parolees (for at least one year)
 - Individuals with withholding of removal or deportation
 - Conditional entrants
 - Cuban/Haitian entrants
 - Certain battered non-citizens (e.g., VAWA petitioners)
 - Victims of trafficking (T visa holders)
 - Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (SIVs)
 - Certain American Indians born abroad
 - Hmong or Highland Laotian tribal members



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What changed?

- * In the future, asylees, refugees, and others with certain humanitarian statuses will not be eligible for SNAP
 - **However...** when residents in one of these categories obtain a green card and adjust their status, they are typically eligible for SNAP **WITHOUT** the 5-year bar.
- For now, residents in one of these categories should continue to apply for and recertify their SNAP benefits
- Once D.C.'s Department of Human Services (DHS) uses the new rule, we expect it to be applied at recertification



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Parents who are not eligible on their own can apply for SNAP benefits for their eligible children **WITHOUT** sharing information about their own immigration status.



IMPORTANT!



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Public Charge Rule

- Some people who apply for a green card or a visa to enter the U.S. must pass a “public charge” test. In those cases, immigration officials look at whether the person will mostly depend on the government for support in the future.
- If you already have a green card, or do not currently have a pathway to getting one, this does not affect you.



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Public Charge Rule

As of November 19, 2025, the Trump administration has proposed ending the Biden public charge rule, but has not explained what will replace it. This makes it hard to know how officials will consider public benefits when they review a green card application in the future.

- For now, the Biden rule is still in place.
- Food, housing, and most healthcare programs are not considered.



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SNAP Income Guidelines

Two income guidelines:

1. Gross income: amount of income a household receives before taxes and deductions
 - Must be below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines
 - Households with older adults (60+) and people with disabilities are not subject to gross income limits
2. Net income: amount of income a household has after taxes
 - Must be below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines



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Earned v. Unearned Income

- **Earned Income**

- Income from a job

- **Unearned Income**

- Anything else including cash assistance, Social Security, unemployment payments, retirement benefits, and child support



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SNAP Income Guidelines

(effective 10/1/2025 to 09/30/2026)

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income for Categorical Eligibility (200% FPL)	Maximum Net Monthly Income (100% FPL)	Maximum SNAP Allotment
1	\$2,610	\$1,305	\$298
2	\$3,526	\$1,763	\$546
3	\$4,442	\$2,221	\$785
4	\$5,360	\$2,680	\$994
5	\$6,276	\$3,138	\$1,183
6	\$7,192	\$3,596	\$1,421
7	\$8,110	\$4,055	\$1,571
8	\$9,026	\$4,513	\$1,789
Each Additional Member	+\$918	+\$459	+\$218

Deductions

- A household's benefit level is determined by **net income**.
 - Net monthly income = gross income - applicable deductions
- The more expenses you have, the more likely you are to be eligible and the higher your benefit level could be.



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Deductions

Earned Income Deduction

- 20% of job earnings

Dependent Care Expenses

- Out-of-pocket dependent care expenses that are necessary for a household member to go to work or school

Excess Shelter Deduction

- For housing costs over half of net income
- Capped at \$744 unless at least one household member is an older adult or has a disability

Child Support Deduction

- For legally-obligated child support a household member pays

Medical Expense Deduction

- For out-of-pocket medical expenses over \$35/month
- Only for older adults and people with disabilities

Standard Utility Allowance Deduction

- For households who pay utilities like water, gas, electric, phone

Standard Deduction

- Applied to all households



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Knowledge Check!

Who can submit receipts to qualify for the medical expense deduction?



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Knowledge Check!

**Who can submit receipts
to qualify for the medical
expense deduction?**

Answer:
*Older adults and people
with disabilities*



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SNAP Application and Recertification Process

Ways to Apply for SNAP

Online

- With D.C. Hunger Solutions over the phone or in person
- On the District Direct website (<https://districtdirect.dc.gov/>) or mobile app.

On paper

- Applications can be mailed or dropped off at any open [ESA Service Center](#).
- Applications can also be faxed
- Try to keep a copy of your application in case it is lost by a Service Center.



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SNAP Pre-Screening

1 Household

2 Income

3 Medical Deductions

4 Dependent Care

5 Child Support

6 Housing and Utilities

7 Benefits

Step 7: Benefits

You are likely eligible for SNAP ([details](#))

Your benefit should be around \$298

Apply for SNAP/Food Stamps as Soon As Possible!

- Call D.C. Hunger Solutions at (202) 640-1088 for application assistance. We can complete the application with you over the phone.
- Download a [SNAP/Food Stamp application](#).
- Call (202) 727-5355 to find out at which [service center](#) you should apply.
- Read the [SNAP guide](#) on the [SNAP page](#) of our website to learn about the application process.
- Visit [FindHelp.org](#) for additional food resources

Start Over

Important Information

These results are only an ESTIMATE based on the information you submitted. You may get more or less food stamp benefits than the estimate shows. If these results say you are NOT eligible for food stamps, you MAY STILL be eligible. The only way you can know officially if you are eligible for food stamps is to submit an application to the D.C. Department of Human Services' Economic Security Administration (ESA).

Normally, the ESA has 30 days to determine eligibility for food stamps. However, some people may qualify for emergency food stamps, known as expedited food stamps, and can receive benefits in less than 7 days. If you have less than \$150 in gross monthly income and less than \$100 in resources, or if your shelter costs are higher than your gross monthly income, you could be eligible for emergency food stamps. Call (202) 727-5355 to find your ESA service office and apply.

Previous

Next

Exit

Check if you are likely eligible for SNAP and your estimated monthly benefit amount by completing our quick pre-screening online!

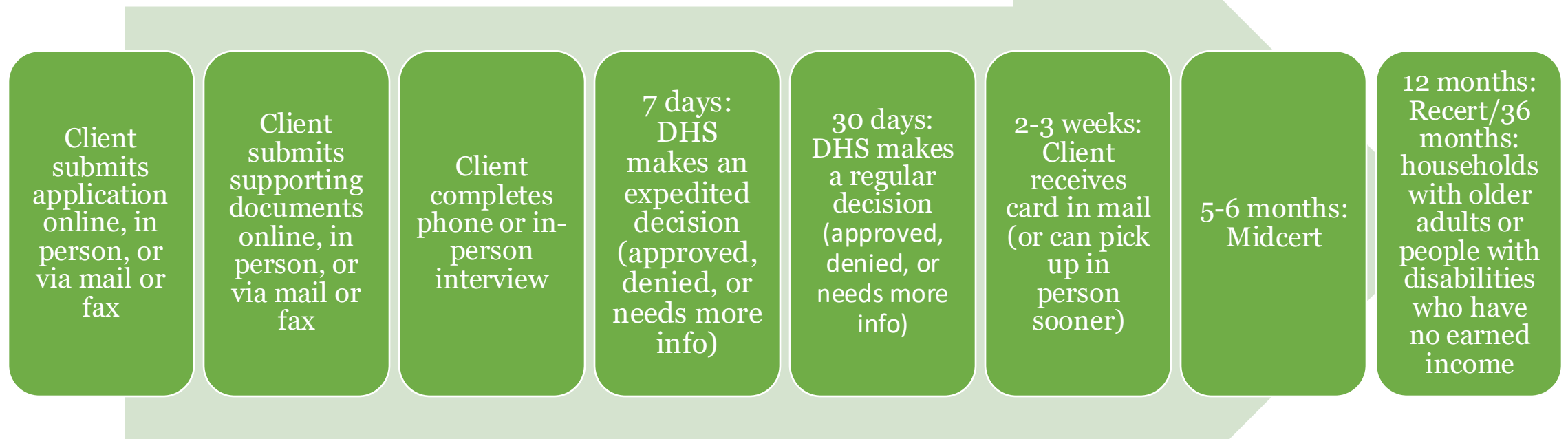
<https://www.dchunger.org/calculator/>



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Application Timeline



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Verification Documents

1. Proof of Identity
2. Proof of D.C. Residency
3. Proof of Social Security number
4. Proof of Income
5. Proof of Shelter Expenses
6. Proof of Medical Expenses (for older adults and people with disabilities)
7. Proof of Dependent Care Expenses
8. Proof of Immigration Status (if not a U.S.-born citizen)

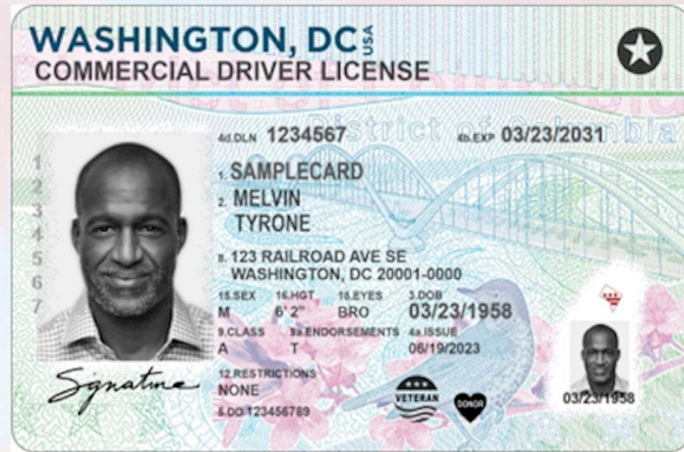
Note: Applicants will now have to provide proof of work and medical exemption documentation (if applicable). Visit [DHS's SNAP work requirements website](#) to find out more about reporting.



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Most common document package



MY COMPANY INC.

207 West Highways Street
New York 14550

Date: 06-05-2023

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION		SSN	EMPLOYEE ID	PAY PERIOD	
JULIA WARNER		0000-00-1234	100585	05-29-2023	
105 Green Forest Avenue				06-04-2023	
New York 14550					
GROSS EARNINGS	HOURS/QT	RATE	AMOUNT	DEDUCTIONS	AMOUNT
Hourly	40	\$23.50	\$940.00	Medical Care	\$12.50
Transport	1	\$105.00	\$105.00	Social Security	\$41.20
Bonus	1	\$40.00	\$40.00	Federal Income Tax	\$12.60
				State Income Tax	\$20.00
				Loans	\$100.00
			GROSS PAY	DEDUCTIONS	
			\$1,085.00	\$186.30	

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STANDARD LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT (hereinafter referred to as the "Standard Lease Agreement") is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 20____, by and between the Landlord known as _____ with a mailing address of _____, City of _____, State of _____ (hereinafter referred to as "Landlord") and the Tenant known as _____ with a mailing address of _____, City of _____, State of _____ (hereinafter referred to as "Tenant").

For and in consideration of the covenants and obligations contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

- PROPERTY.** Landlord owns certain real property and improvements located at _____, City of _____, State of _____ (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"). Landlord desires to lease the Property to Tenant upon the terms and conditions contained herein. Tenant desires to lease the Property from Landlord upon the terms and conditions contained herein.
- TERM.** This Standard Lease Agreement shall commence on _____, 20____, and end on _____, 20____, at 11:59 PM local time (hereinafter referred to as the "Term"). Upon the end of the Term, Tenant shall be required to vacate the Property unless one of the following circumstances occur:
 - Landlord and Tenant formally extend this Standard Lease Agreement in writing or create and execute a new, written and signed Standard Lease Agreement; or
 - Landlord willingly accepts new Rent from Tenant, which does not constitute past due Rent.

In the event that Landlord accepts new rent from Tenant after the termination date, a month-to-month tenancy shall be created. If at any time either party desires to terminate the month-to-month tenancy, such party may do so by providing to the other party written notice of intention to terminate at least thirty (30) days prior to the desired date or the minimum time-period required by the State, whichever is less. Notices to terminate may be given on any calendar day, irrespective of commencement date. Rent shall continue at the rate specified in this Standard Lease Agreement, or as allowed by law. All other terms and conditions as outlined in this Standard Lease Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Time is of the essence for providing notice of termination (strict compliance with dates by which notice must be provided is required).

- RENT.** Tenant shall pay to Landlord the sum of \$_____ per month (hereinafter referred to as "Rent") for the Term of the Agreement. The due date for Rent payment shall be the _____ day of each calendar month and shall be considered advance payment for that month (hereinafter referred to as the "Due Date"). Weekends and holidays do not delay or excuse Tenant's obligation to pay Rent in a timely manner.

- Late Rent.** If Rent is not paid within _____ days of the Due Date, the Rent shall be considered past due and a late fee of \$_____ or _____ % of the Rent past due shall be applied for every _____ day Rent is late. _____ occurrence Rent is late.
- Returned Checks.** In the event that any payment by Tenant is returned for insufficient funds ("NSF") or if Tenant stops payment, Tenant will pay \$_____ to Landlord for each such check, plus late Rent penalties, as described above, until Landlord has received payment. Furthermore, Landlord may require in writing that Tenant pay all future Rent payments by cash, money order, or cashier's check.

FreeForms.com

Page 1 of 6



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Knowledge Check!

Can this family apply for SNAP?

Household of 4 with two parents with work permits and two children who were born in the United States



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Knowledge Check!

Yes!

As long as the family meets the income requirements, the family can apply. The children are eligible and the parents do not have to share information about their own status.



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Recent Changes

HR.1

House of Representatives Bill 1 (H.R.1), also referred to as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), was signed into law as Public Law 119-21 on July 4, 2024.

H.R. 1 makes the **largest cuts to SNAP in its 60-year history.**

In the Senate of the United States,

July 1 (legislative day, June 30), 2025.

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 1) entitled “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike all after the first word, and insert the following:

1 1. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

2 The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Table of contents.

TITLE I—COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Subtitle A—Nutrition

Sec. 10101. Re-evaluation of thrifty food plan.

Sec. 10102. Modifications to SNAP work requirements for able-bodied adults.

Sec. 10103. Availability of standard utility allowances based on receipt of energy assistance.

Sec. 10104. Restrictions on internet expenses.

Sec. 10105. Matching funds requirements.

Sec. 10106. Administrative cost sharing.

Sec. 10107. National education and obesity prevention grant program.

Sec. 10108. Alien SNAP eligibility.



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6 Major Changes

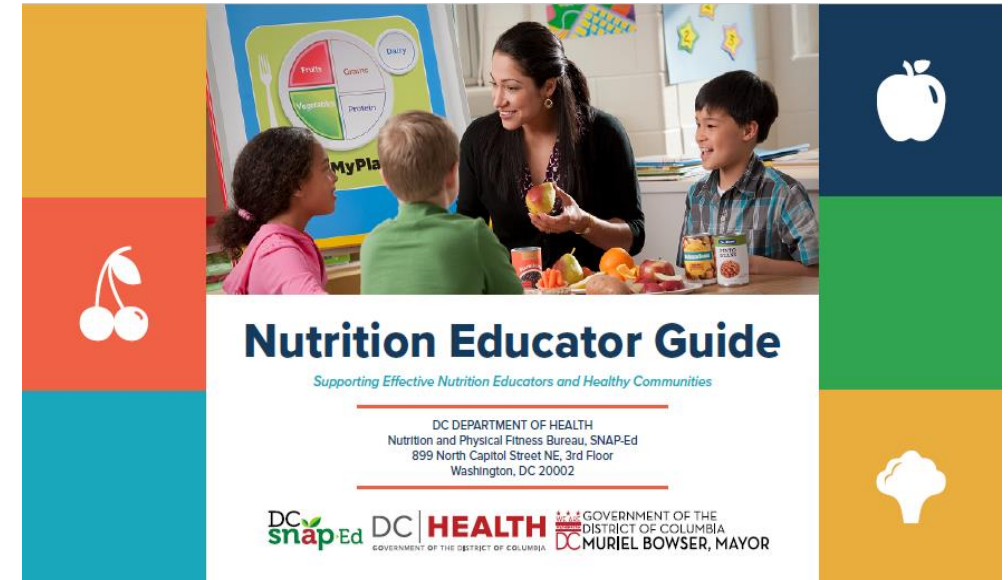
1. Elimination of SNAP-Ed program
2. Shifting costs to states
3. Changing eligibility of certain statuses
4. Tightening of work requirements
5. Changes to LIHEAP (utility assistance)
6. Changes to internet costs on SNAP application

Elimination of SNAP-Ed Program

SNAP-Ed in D.C.

SNAP-Ed was a successful, evidence-based, federally funded grant program that provided nutrition education, teaching participants how to make healthy food choices, stretch their food dollars, and lead active lifestyles.

- H.R.1 eliminated SNAP-Ed nation-wide in October 2025



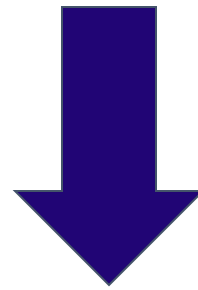
Shifting Costs to States

www.dchunger.org - (202) 640-1088 - info@dchunger.org



Cost Shift: Administrative Costs

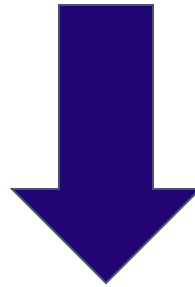
Previously, costs to administer the SNAP program were split 50/50 between the federal government and states



States will be responsible for 75% of the administrative cost, expected beginning Oct 2026 (FY27). D.C. will be responsible for an additional \$21M.

Cost Shift: Benefit Costs

SNAP benefits were 100% paid by the federal government



States will pay a portion based on their FY2026 error rates

- In FY2025, D.C.'s payment error rate was 18.66%
- If error rate is over 10%, D.C. will have to pay 15% of the cost of benefits.

Eligibility Changes

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SNAP Eligibility Changes

Previously, asylees, refugees, and certain trafficking survivors were eligible for SNAP.

H.R.1 limits SNAP to:

1. U.S. Citizens
2. Adults who have had a green card for 5 years (or kids under 18 who have a green card for any amount of time)
3. Cuban-Haitian entrants
4. Migrants from certain Pacific Islands



Work Requirements

SNAP Work Requirements

- Due to changes in federal law, DHS will begin checking whether certain SNAP customers need to meet new work requirements.
- These new work requirements apply to Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) who do not qualify for an exemption.

Note: If SNAP participants are required to meet the work requirements and don't comply, they will only be allowed to receive SNAP for **3 months in a 36-month period**.



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Who needs to meet the requirements?

Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents (ABAWDs) are required to complete work requirements.

- Clients are considered an ABAWD if they are...
 - between the ages of 18 and 64;
 - have no dependents under the age of 14 living with them;
 - have no medical or physical barriers to employment; and
 - are not pregnant



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H.R.1 Changes

Removed automatic exemptions for unhoused individuals, veterans, and youth under 24 aging out of foster care.

However... There are still ways that people experiencing homelessness, for example, can qualify for an exemption by documenting that they have barriers to work, like not having access to a shower or clean clothes



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Who is exempt?

Clients may be exempt from work requirements, if they are:

- Under age 18 or over age 65
- Taking care of a child under 14
- Receiving disability benefits
- Have a physical or mental health condition that limits their ability to work (with a form filled out by a medical provider)
- Caring for someone sick or elderly
- Pregnant
- A member of an Indigenous group
- Already working 30 hours a week
- Attending school, college, or a training program at least half-time
- Have barriers to work, like not having access to a shower or clean clothes



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When will SNAP participants be screened?

Work requirements went into effect on **June 1, 2026**

- Next time a client applies or recertifies for SNAP benefits, DHS will review their ABAWD status.
- If the new work requirements apply, DHS will notify them of:
 - Who in the household needs to meet ABAWD work requirements.
 - The different ways work requirements can be met.

How can work requirements be met?

1. Working or volunteering

- Working a paid job for at least 20 hours or earning at least \$217.50 per week or volunteering at least 20 hours per week

2. Participating in a work, education, or training program

3. Doing a combination of working, volunteering, and training

4. Participating in the SNAP volunteer program (workfare)



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SNAP Volunteer Program (Workfare)

If you choose to participate in the SNAP Volunteer Program, the number of hours you need to complete is determined by your monthly benefit amount divided by D.C.'s minimum wage.

Household's monthly
SNAP benefit amount



D.C.'s Minimum Wage (\$18.40)

Note:

- Most households will need to volunteer for 30 or fewer hours per month.
- Hours can be split up between any ABAWD's in the household.



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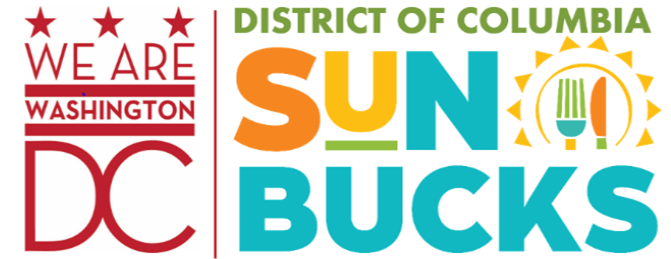
Other Food Resources

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Summer EBT (SUN Bucks)

DC SUN Bucks provides \$120 of grocery benefits to eligible students over the summer when kids aren't getting the meals they usually eat at school.



Grocery benefits are available
for eligible school-age children
during summer break.



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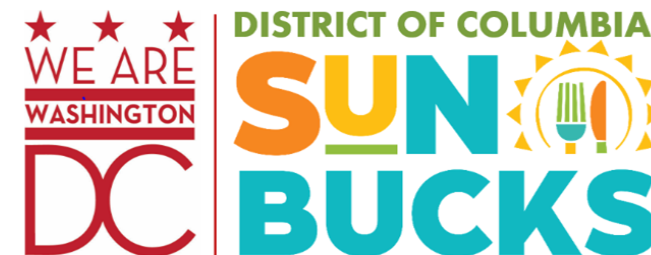
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Summer EBT (SUN Bucks)

Who is eligible?

Students are eligible for SUN Bucks if they:

- Are between 5-18 years old and part of a household that participated in SNAP or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) **OR**
- Are experiencing homelessness or in foster care; **OR**
- Submitted an application for free or reduced-price school meals during the current school year that was approved; **OR**
- Submitted a 2025 SUN Bucks application on July 1, 2025 or later, were approved, and are still attending a school that offers the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).



Grocery benefits are available
for eligible school-age children
during summer break.



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Summer EBT (SUN Bucks)

How do you apply?

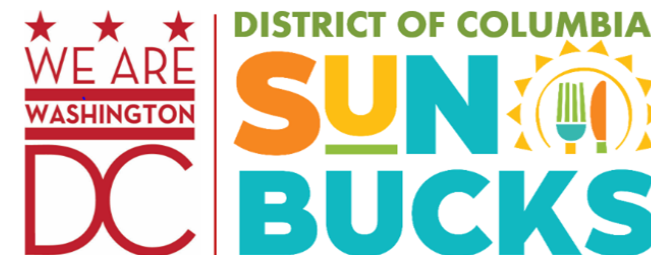
If a student is eligible but not automatically enrolled, families can apply for Summer 2026, if they meet BOTH of these requirements:

- The student attends a participating school during the 2025-2026 school year
- The household income qualifies for free or reduced-price meals (FARM)

Eligible students can apply for SUN Bucks [online](#).

August 23, 2026 is the last day to apply for 2026.

www.dchunger.org - (202) 640-1088 - info@dchunger.org



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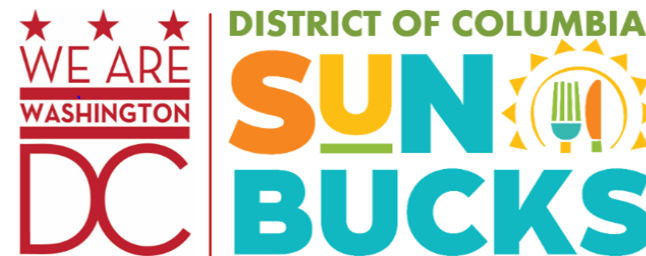
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Summer EBT (SUN Bucks)

The [SUN Bucks Portal](#) is a new addition to the program this year.

Parents and guardians are now able to login to the portal to manage their SUN Bucks account online, view their student's benefits, replace their SUN Bucks card, and more!



**Grocery benefits are available
for eligible school-age children
during summer break.**

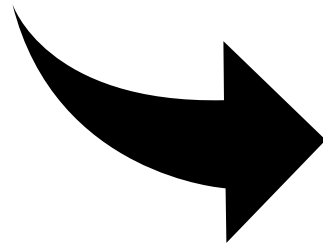


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D.C. Food Resources

**Scan or click
below for our full
list of food
resources!**



www.dchunger.org/get-help



Frequently Asked Questions

General SNAP FAQs

1. How do I get a new EBT card if mine is lost or stolen?
 - To report a lost or stolen card and/or to request a new card, you can visit an EBT Card Distribution Center or call (888) 304-9167.
2. Do SNAP benefits expire?
 - Generally, most SNAP benefits expire after nine months of not using your EBT card. Your monthly benefits will transfer over to the next month if you do not use them all.



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SNAP FAQs

Older Adults (60+) and People with Disabilities

3. Can someone else represent me for my SNAP case?
 - Yes, you can designate an authorized representative to conduct interviews, make changes, and use your card to buy groceries for your household.
4. Can I receive benefits if I lived in an assisted living facility?
 - Typically, no. However, if you are a resident of a federally-subsidized unit for older adults or if you are a person with a disability living in certain nonprofit group living arrangements, you may be eligible.



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SNAP FAQs

College and Trade School Students

5. Can I receive benefits if I live with a roommate?
 - If you regularly buy and prepare food with roommates, you should apply together. Otherwise, you can and should apply separately.
6. What if I am enrolled in school less than half-time?
 - If you attend an accredited college or university less than half-time, you are not considered a student according to SNAP guidelines and you only need to qualify under regular program rules.
7. Are my student loans counted as income?
 - Educational loans funded through the Department of Education and some parts of other student grants, loans, scholarships, and fellowships are not counted as income for the purposes for determining SNAP eligibility. Private loans and scholarships may be counted as income.



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SNAP FAQs

Immigrants

8. Can I apply for an eligible family member even if I am not eligible based on my immigration status?

- Yes, you can obtain benefits on behalf of a qualifying household member (for example, a child who is a U.S. citizen. DHS cannot ask for any information about your immigration status if you are not applying for yourself.



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SNAP FAQs

Returning Citizens

9. Can I receive SNAP benefits if I have a criminal record?
- You may be eligible for SNAP even if you have a criminal record. The only relevant criminal history for SNAP in the District is if you are out of compliance with the terms of your parole or probation, or if you have been convicted of selling SNAP benefits.
 - While not a criminal offense, if you have been charged with an Intentional Program Violation (IPV), this will affect your ability to receive benefits. The penalties associated with IPVs varies depending on the number and type of IPV.
 - You cannot apply for SNAP benefits before being released from a correctional institution. You must wait until the day you are released.



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SNAP FAQs

People Experiencing Homelessness

10. Do I need a permanent home address to receive benefits?
 - No, you do not necessarily need a permanent address. If you are living in a shelter, you can have your information and EBT card sent to the shelter, and you can provide a letter from a shelter employee stating you are living in a shelter when you apply.
11. What if I do not have all the verification documents I need?
 - You can seek assistance from a government agency like the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or another organization that serves people experiencing homelessness. They may be able to help you locate or obtain documents, verify your identity and residence, and offer mailing services.



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SNAP FAQs

People Experiencing Homelessness

12. Can I receive SNAP if I am living and receiving meals at a shelter?
- Yes, residents of homeless shelters are typically eligible for SNAP. This is also the case for residents of rehabilitation or treatment centers for drug and alcohol use and shelters for domestic violence survivors.
 - However, "if a customer lives in a facility that provides more than 50 percent of three meals daily as a part of the facility's normal services, ESA considers them to be living in an institution. In general, people living in an institution cannot receive SNAP benefits" (ESA SNAP Policy Manual (2025)).

Questions?

www.dchunger.org - (202) 640-1088 - info@dchunger.org



Tell us what you thought!



<https://forms.gle/X6q9bsWWFaVQQ6QZ6>

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