

How Much SNAP Benefit Will You Receive?

The amount of benefits your household receives each month depends on the number of people in your household and your monthly net income.

Where To Use SNAP Benefits?

You can use SNAP benefits like cash to buy food items at any store, supermarket or co-op approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). SNAP benefits in Indiana come on an electronic card called Hoosier Works. Use the Hoosier Works card in the device at the store checkout and enter your Personal Identification number (PIN). The amount you spend will be subtracted from your SNAP benefit account.

Important Warning

All information provided about your assistance group(s) is subject to verification and investigation by federal, state and local authorities. A person who receives assistance by giving false information or by failing to report information or who uses SNAP benefits to purchase illegal drugs, firearms, ammunition or explosives may be criminally prosecuted under state and/or federal law. It is a crime to give away, sell or trade SNAP benefits. Federal Regulations require the Division of Family Resources to recover all SNAP benefits that were issued in error, regardless of who caused the error.



The Right To Appeal

If you disagree with any action affecting your eligibility or benefits, you may request a Fair Hearing. To do so, contact the DFR Office either in person, by telephone or in writing.

Civil Rights

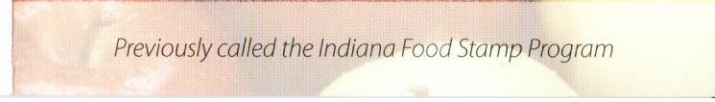
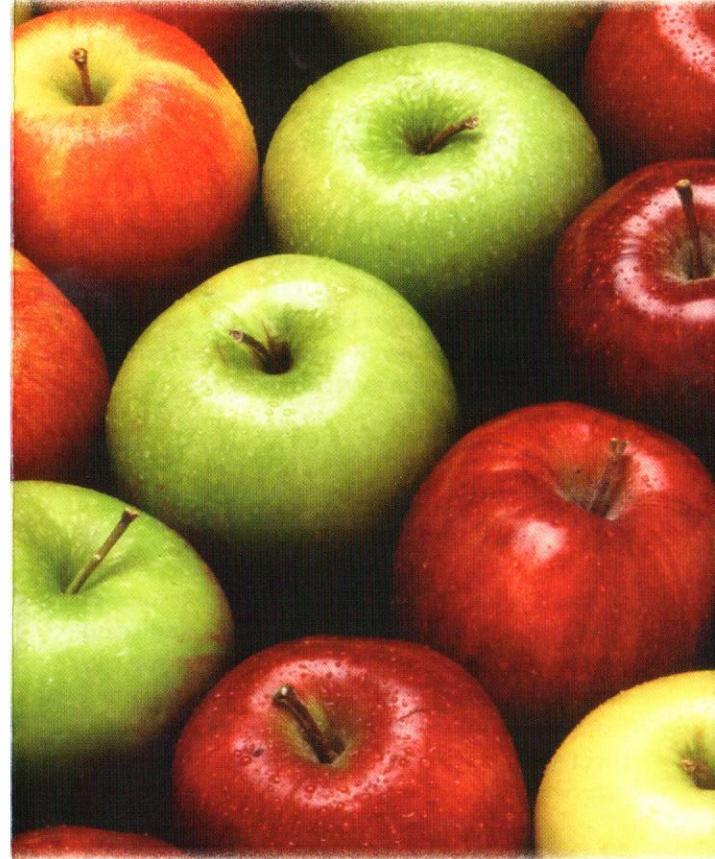
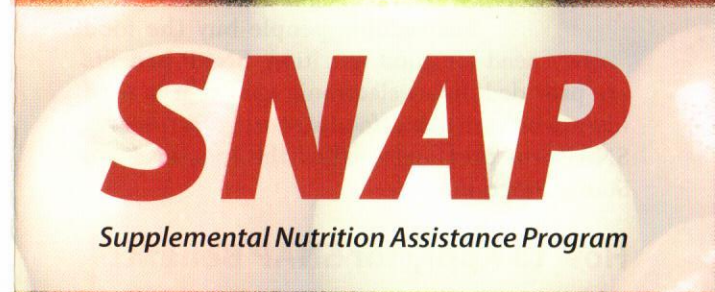
In accordance with federal law and USDA policy, the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs or disability.

If you feel you are being discriminated against, write immediately to the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, P.O. Box 7083, Indianapolis, IN 46207. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free 1-866-632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339; or 1-800-845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

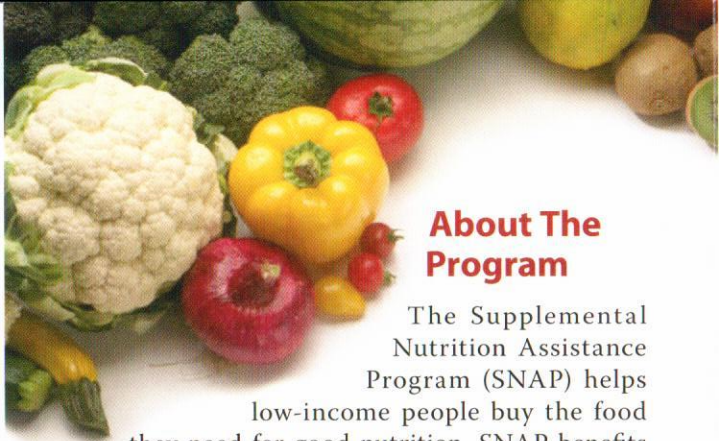


State of Indiana
Family and Social Services Administration
402 W. WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM W363
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2739
www.IN.gov/fssa

FSSA 1000 (R13/9-11)
Job 5328



Previously called the Indiana Food Stamp Program



About The Program

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps low-income people buy the food they need for good nutrition. SNAP benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like a debit card to buy food at most grocery stores. SNAP was previously called the Indiana Food Stamp Program.

How to Apply for SNAP Benefits

Visit our web site at www.IN.gov/fssa and select the Apply for Benefits link to download an application. You may also visit your local Division of Family Resources office or call our toll free number, 1-800-403-0864, to request an application be sent to you.

Complete the application as much as you can. Be sure to write your name and address and sign the application. Return the application to your local office, by mail or fax, or by taking it to your local office. Your SNAP benefits are calculated from the date your application is received by the Division of Family Resources.

Do I Qualify For SNAP Benefits?

To get SNAP benefits, your income and other resources have to be under certain limits. You can visit your local Division of Family Resources (DFR) office to pick up an application and see if you are eligible to receive SNAP benefits. You can also call your local DFR Office to ask questions from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday or you can visit our website at <http://www.IN.gov/fssa/SNAP>.

Income Limits

There are two income limits: Gross and Net. Gross income is your total income, before taxes or any other deductions. Some deductions are allowed, like housing costs, child support payments, child care or dependent care payments, and monthly medical expenses over \$35 for elderly (at least 60 years old) or disabled people. The amount left over after allowable deductions is called net income.

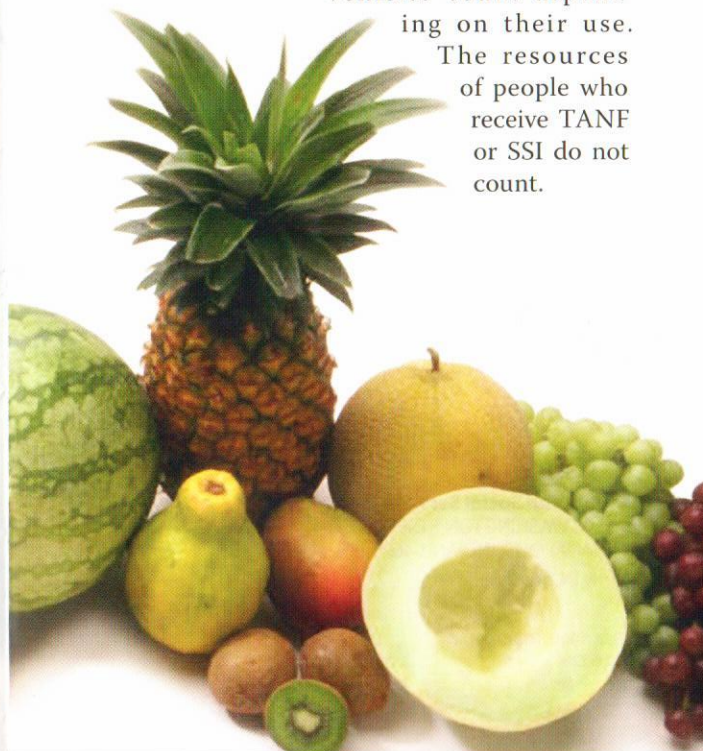
Most households have to meet both gross and net income limits. If everyone in your household receives SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), you do not need to meet any income limits.

Resource (Asset) Limits

Talk with a local DFR worker to see what resources you have compared to the maximum amount of resources you can have and still qualify for SNAP. Checking or savings accounts are resources. The home you live in is not counted as a resource.

Vehicles count depending on their use.

The resources of people who receive TANF or SSI do not count.



Other Eligibility Factors

Some people cannot receive SNAP benefits because:

- They are boarders or they live in institutions.
- They are non-citizens of the United States whose status bars them from receiving benefits.
- They have intentionally broken program rules.
- They do not comply with Social Security number requirements.
- They were working at least 20 hours a week and quit without good cause.
- They chose to work fewer than 30 hours a week without good cause.
- They are violating probation or parole, or are criminal fugitives.
- They have been convicted of felony drug crimes.

There are exceptions for certain people. In general, people who qualify by being needy can receive benefits if they live in certain group homes, alcohol or drug treatment centers, shelters for battered women and children, or certain Mental Health Centers.

When Will You Receive Your Benefits?

Most eligible applicants receive their SNAP benefits within 30 days of applying. It takes this long for processing and notification.

Some households may receive their SNAP benefits within seven days. This exception is only for people who, during the month they apply:

- Are not already certified to receive benefits.
- Will have a gross income of less than \$150 AND have no more than \$100 in resources such as cash, checking or savings; or
- Have monthly housing costs that exceed their gross monthly income and cash, checking, or savings.

