

SNAP 101 for Maverick Diversity Institute



SNAP Advice...

- I don't expect you to retain all the details that follow...
- Instead, I ask you to:
 - Dialogue.
 - Ask questions.
 - Reduce stigma.
 - Normalize the conversation.
 - Dispel myths.
 - Share resources.



Community Resources

Campus Cupboard
Crossroads Campus Ministry



Campus Kitchen
black mini-fridge!





What is SNAP?

What Is SNAP?

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is the federal and state name for food assistance.
- Sometimes people refer to the program as the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card or Food Stamps.





SNAP Helps...

- **Low-income Minnesotans get the food they need for sound nutrition and well-balanced meals.**
 - NOT meant to be entire food budget
 - Minimum benefit paid \$16
 - Average monthly benefit is \$105/month
- **Provide the freshest, most nutritious food possible!**
 - Purchase what you want to eat, when you plan to eat it, at the store of your choice.
 - NO WASTE!
 - Debit card (EBT) maintains privacy
- **Stimulate YOUR local economy!**
 - Every \$5 spent in SNAP benefits generates \$8.50 in community spending (wages, taxes, etc)

Why SNAP Outreach?

- Second Harvest Heartland's Missing Meals report shows that more than 165 million more meals are still needed each year in Minnesota and western Wisconsin to ensure that all low-income families and individuals have three nutritious meals every day.
- Only 81% of eligible Minnesotans are currently taking advantage of SNAP benefits.
- Nonparticipation is a result of:
 - People believing they are not eligible
 - They experience a cumbersome application process.
- The SNAP team can help overcome the **barriers** that keep people from applying and/or receiving SNAP benefits.



The image features a vibrant, abstract background composed of overlapping, colorful paper scraps in shades of yellow, blue, pink, green, and orange. Many of these scraps have large, bold black question marks drawn on them. A prominent white diamond shape is centered on the right side of the image, containing the text "When in doubt - REFER!". The background also includes a light green gradient and a white line-art illustration of a leafy branch in the bottom right corner.

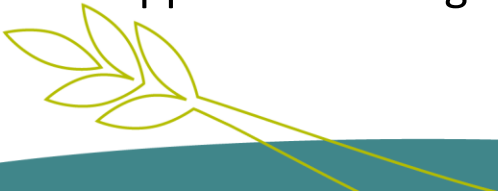
**When in doubt
– REFER!**

SNAP Household...

When talking FOOD or SNAP, a household is defined as:

Everyone who lives together and shops, cooks and eats together more than 50% of the time.

- Applicant under 22 years old living with parents
- Applicant 22 years old, or older, living with parents
- Applicant living in dorms on meal plan
- Applicant living with roommates who regularly share food (family style)
- Applicant living with roommates who do NOT share food
- Homeless applicant
- Applicant feeding a homeless friend



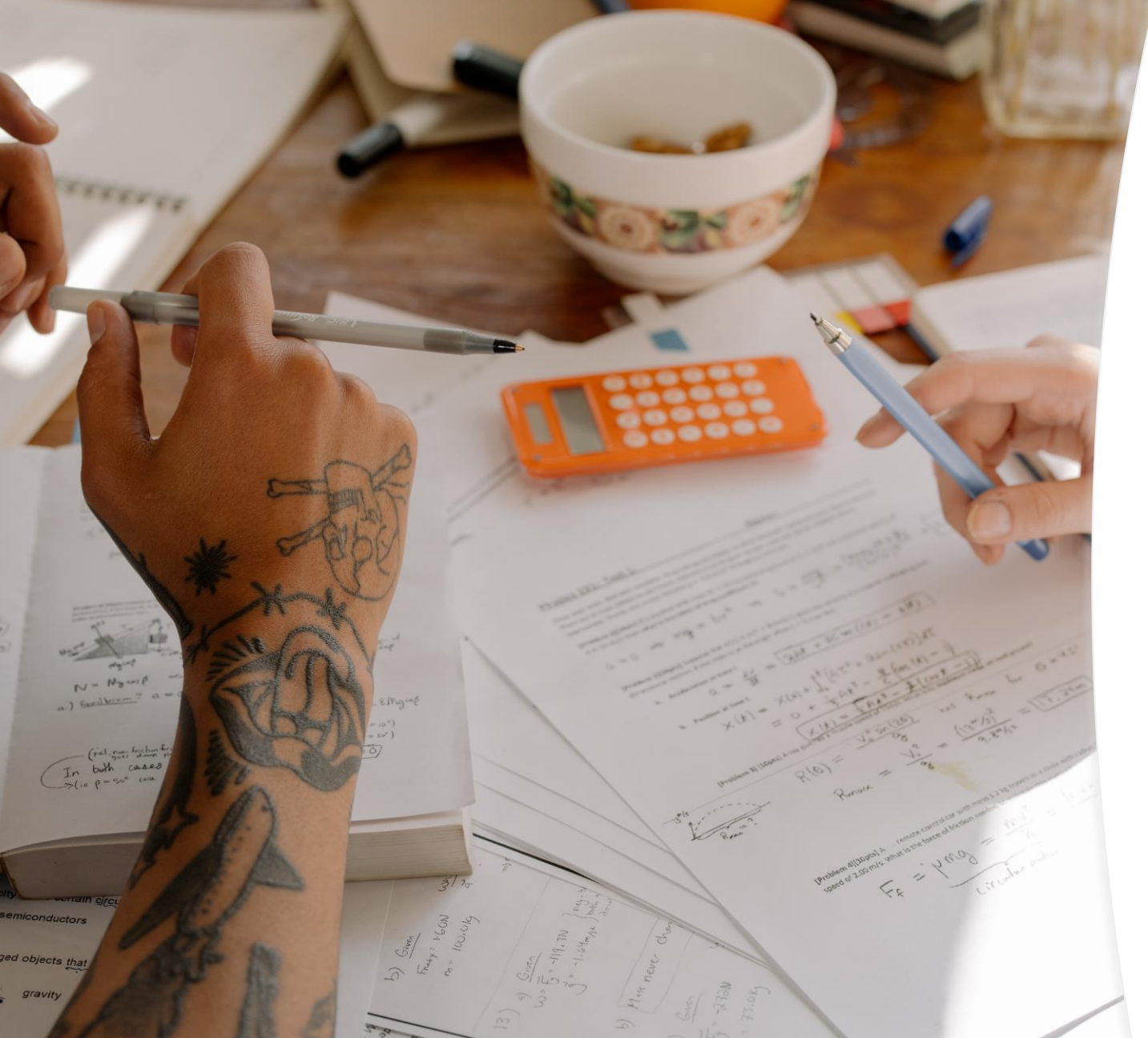


photo from pexels.com

— SNAP Eligibility

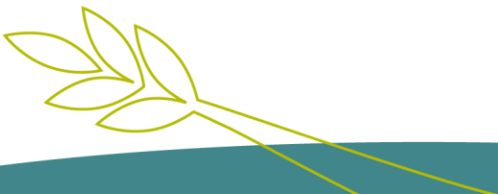
Start with Household Size and Gross Monthly Income:

- If student is interested – REFER!
 - I will screen and make additional connections.
- Federal and State Funded Work Study = Categorical Eligibility (= automatically eligible to apply).
- AmeriCorps, GreenCorps, ReadingCorps, MathCorps students typically qualify.
- Some Grants, Loans and Scholarships are counted, and others are not, depending upon source of funds and how it has been used.

SNAP Income Guideline – changes every Oct 1

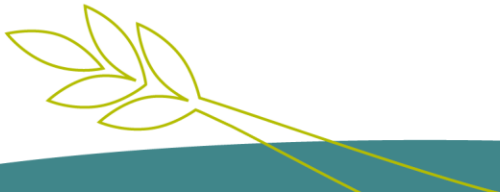
Household Size	Family Monthly Income 165% FPG (Before Taxes = Gross)	Household Size	Seniors/Disabled Adults Monthly 100 % FPG (After Taxes = Net)
1	\$1,755	1	\$1,064
2	\$2,371	2	\$1,437
3	\$2,987	3	\$1,810
4	\$3,603	4	\$2,184
5	\$4,219	5	\$2,557
6	\$4,835		
Each additional	\$616	Each additional	\$374

*Income guidelines good through 9/30/2021



SNAP Eligibility Continued...

- Determine Citizenship:
 - All U.S. Citizens have the right to apply.
 - Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR = green card) are eligible to apply after 5 years of residence in the U.S.
 - Refugees and Asylees are eligible to apply.
 - U.S. born children of non-citizens ARE eligible to apply. ***Refer for specific instructions.*
 - Students granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) are NOT eligible to apply.
- All eligible (applying) household members must have a valid Social Security Number.



SNAP Eligibility Continued...

College Student Specific Rules:

All students attending post-secondary schools more than half time (as defined by the school); MUST have a PAID job, working at least 20 hours/week (80 hours/month) and meet all other criteria, in order to qualify.

There are exceptions (of course):

Under 18 or over 50; Disabled

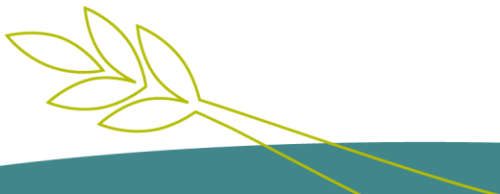
Parent/Custodian of dependents

Work Study

Receipt of MFIP/DWP

WIOA funded Employment Training Program (i.e. dislocated worker)

**not a complete list*



SNAP Eligibility Continued...

Specific Rules for Adults age 18 to 50 (ABAWDS):

- Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents

Includes students attending post-secondary schools LESS than half time (as defined by the school); **MUST** have a PAID job, working at least 20 hours/week (80 hours/month) and meet all other criteria, in order to maintain a benefit.

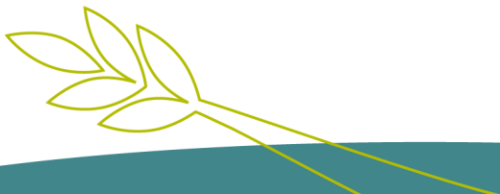
- Can qualify for 3 months of benefits in a 3 year period (3/36) without a job, if NOT in school more than half time.

There are exceptions (of course):

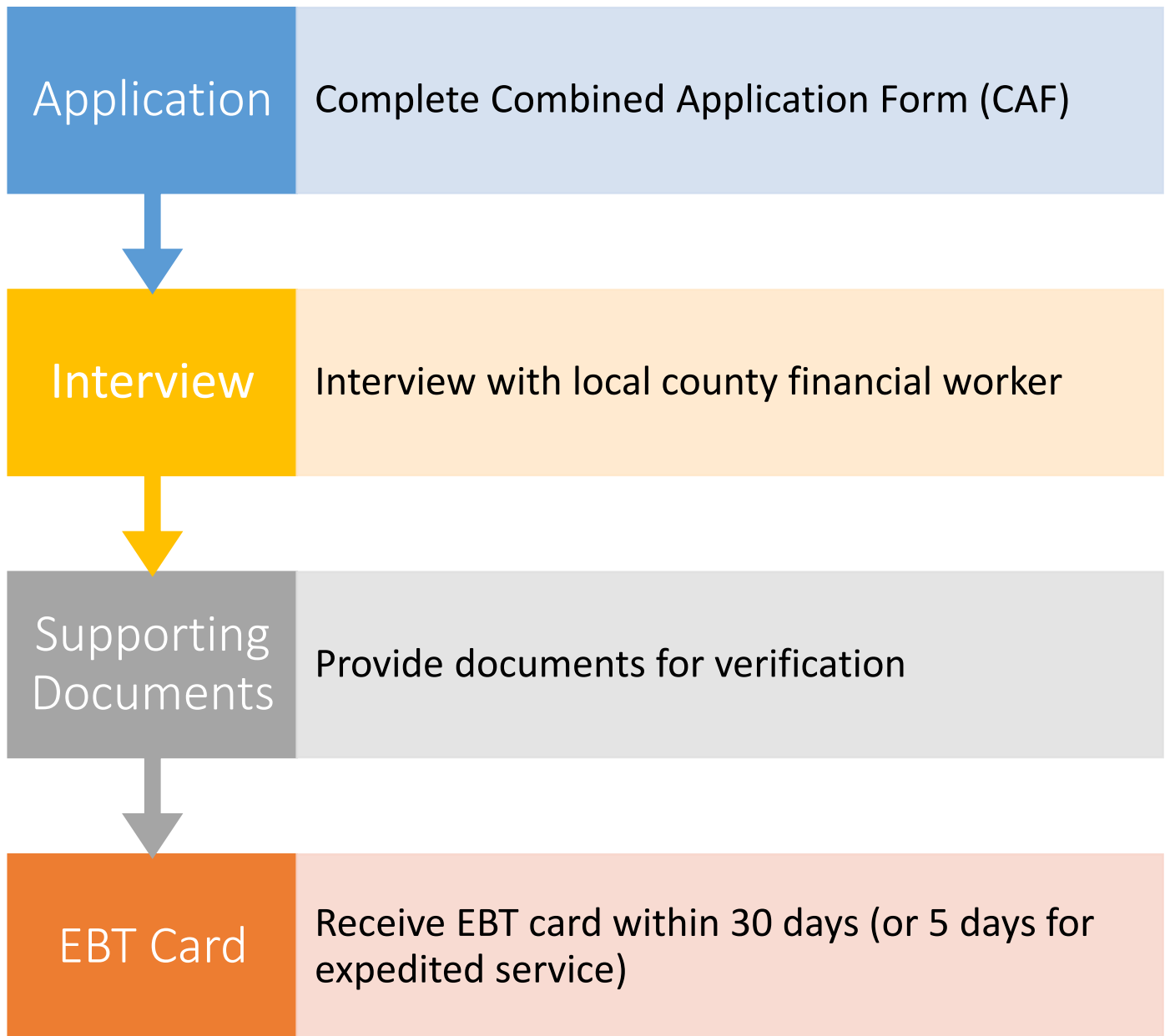
GED/ESL classes; Job Training Program

Parent/Custodian of a dependent

**not a complete list*



Application Process



SNAP Outreach at Second Harvest Heartland

- SHH's SNAP Outreach is one of the top 10 SNAP Outreach Programs within the national Feeding America network & carries 40% of Minnesota's SNAP Outreach caseload.
- We currently conduct SNAP Outreach activities in 15 counties.
 - 10 Full Time Staff Members
 - 5-8 Regular Volunteers
 - 6-8 Interns



Rahsa Bale

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Anoka, Chisago, or Isanti
County



Tina England

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Blue Earth, Brown, Nicollet,
Le Sueur or Watonwan County



Emily Bowman

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Dakota/Washington County
Specialist



Ma Lee-Chritz

SNAP Outreach Coordinator
Ramsey County



Vicky Mendez

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Hennepin County



Abigail Renteria

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Wright/Sherburne/Stearns
County Specialist



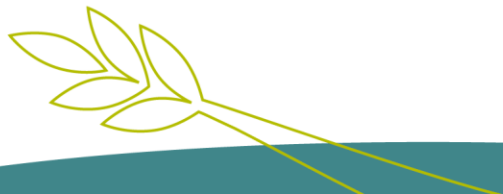
Maureen Wilson

SNAP Outreach Specialist
Polk/Pierce/Burnett/St Croix
Counties in Wisconsin



Jasmin Maldonado

SNAP Outreach Specialist





Receiving Benefits

- Benefits are provided monthly on an EBT card that is used at retailers much like a debit card.
- Benefits may be used for 365 days from issuance.
- Benefits may be used to purchase food items only.



Recertification/Renewal:

Minnesota implemented
“Simplified Reporting”

- Households complete a report every 6 months and recertify every 12 months
- Seniors/Disabled adults complete a report/recertify every 12-24 months

****SNAP Specialists can
ALSO assist with recertification*

Understand the Myths and Misconceptions:

-**Myth:** “SNAP is a welfare program.”

-**FACT:** SNAP is a nutrition program of the USDA, included in the Farm Bill. You can choose to receive SNAP and not receive (or be eligible for) Cash Assistance.

-**Myth:** “Everyone will know that I’m on food stamps (SNAP).”

-**FACT:** SNAP benefits are issued through an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) system. The EBT card looks and works like any other bank debit card, making it hard for others to tell what you're using to pay for food.

-**Myth:** "I can't get SNAP because I own a car."

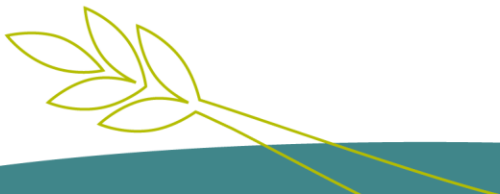
-**FACT:** Vehicles and other assets aren't considered in determining SNAP eligibility in Minnesota.

-**Myth:** “Only unemployed people can get SNAP.”

-**FACT:** Many people who work can get SNAP benefits. Eligibility is based only on household size and monthly income.

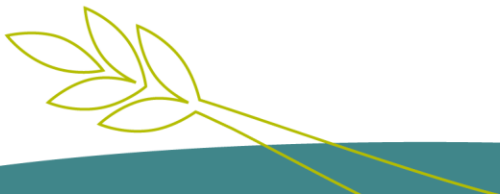
-**Myth:** "If I get SNAP I won't be able to use the food shelf or qualify for other programs such as WIC or CSFP."

-**FACT:** Claiming SNAP benefits does not disqualify anyone from receiving food from other sources or programs.



SNAP Outreach Video

<https://2harvest.sharepoint.com/sites/SNAPPERS/Shared%20Documents/General/SNAP%20Outreach%20video.mp4> –



Questions?



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