



Has SNAP eligibility changed due to my immigration status?

There have been some recent changes to eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP, formerly known as food stamps, based on immigration status. SNAP benefits are not available to undocumented immigrants, but have been available to certain categories of legally present residents. The recent reconciliation bill (signed into law in July 2025) restricts SNAP to only lawful permanent residents with some exceptions.

Answer these questions and follow the flow chart to determine if any of the changes impact your eligibility for SNAP.

1

Are you enrolled in SNAP?

If, "YES" ↓

2

If yes to #1, what best describes your immigration status?

Lawful permanent resident (LPR or green card holder)

Eligible after a 5-year waiting period, if all other SNAP financial and non-financial eligibility requirements are met.

LPRs may still be eligible for SNAP without a waiting period if you meet one or more of the following conditions:

- Are under 18 years old
- Have 40 qualifying work quarters
- Are blind or disabled
- Were lawfully residing in the U.S. and 65 or older on August 22, 1996
- Have a U.S. military connection
- Are admitted to the United States as an Amerasian immigrant
- Are an American Indian born abroad
- Certain Hmong or Highland Laotian tribal members

Cuban and Haitian entrants, Compacts of Free Association (COFA) citizens, or non-citizen U.S. nationals

Eligible immediately, with no waiting period, if all other SNAP financial and non-financial eligibility requirements are met.

None of the above

You are likely no longer eligible for SNAP based on changes to the federal law related to SNAP and immigration status. The following group of legally-present immigrants who were previously eligible for SNAP are no longer eligible:

- Refugees, asylees and individuals granted withholding of removal/deportation
- Survivors of domestic violence who are self-petitioners under the Violence Against Women Act
- Certain survivors of trafficking and their family members
- Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (SIVs)
- Conditional entrants
- Parolees granted more than a year of parole and certain
- Certain Afghan and Ukrainian parolees
- LPRs under INA § 249, known as legalization through "Registry"

For more detailed information about your eligibility, contact your county job and family services office.