

**Overview of SNAP Policy:** Michigan’s adoption of wider flexibilities under categorical eligibility for SNAP receipt has expanded eligibility for food stamps to more families. Importantly, **extending the gross income limit to 200% FPL** effectively reduces benefit cliffs for working parents as they earn higher incomes. Since Michigan has **eliminated its asset test** for BBCE-eligible households, families applying for SNAP can retain their savings and still receive nutritional assistance – an important determinant for economic mobility. Additionally, by **treating child support payments to non-household members as income exclusions rather than deductions**, Michigan further expands eligibility to more families.

The state **provides 12-month recertification periods for all eligible families, requires reporting of income only when earnings increase above the eligibility limit, and offers online services for its initial application, change reporting, and renewal of SNAP benefits.** Together these services ease the administrative burdens that can limit families from accessing support even when they are eligible.

Michigan has also **eliminated the lifetime ban on eligibility for those convicted of drug-related felonies.**

**Assessment of SNAP Policy:** Using state funds to provide SNAP to immigrant households with children who are ineligible under federal regulations would benefit young children’s development and support economic security, particularly for newly-arrived families.

**Providing families that are losing access to TANF cash assistance with transitional SNAP benefits for several months,** Michigan could offer more consistent support to low-income families through a critical period of acute need.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For research detailing effects of some state-level policies and administrative practices on children and families, see <https://www.nccp.org/ec-profiles-pes-policies-related-research-and-resources/#parenting>.

<b>Michigan's Food Stamps (SNAP) Policy</b>		
<b>WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?</b>		
<b>Flexibility</b>	<b>Current policy</b>	<b>Potential improvement</b>
<b>Gross income limit</b>  How much can family members earn while being eligible?	\$4,303*/month (200% FPL for a Michigan family of three in 2024).	N/A
<b>Asset Limit</b>  How many assets can families retain in savings while still being eligible for food stamps?	There is no limit on savings for categorically eligible households.	N/A
<b>Transitional Benefit Alternative (TBA)</b>  Does Michigan provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?	No.	<b>Consider providing TBA to families transitioning from TANF cash assistance, as other states are doing (e.g., North Carolina, Georgia).</b>
* Current administrative guidelines may present different income amounts depending on when updates to the current federal poverty guidelines are implemented.		
<b>ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS</b>		
<b>Flexibility</b>	<b>Current policy</b>	<b>Potential improvement</b>
<b>Treatment of child support payments to non-household members</b>  Does Michigan treat child support payments made to non-household members as an income exclusion rather than a deduction?	Yes.	N/A
<b>Lifting drug felony bans</b>  Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance?	Yes.	N/A

<p><b>Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs</b></p> <p>Has Michigan extended SNAP eligibility to immigrants who are ineligible for SNAP under federal guidelines?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p><b>Provide nutritional assistance to newly-arrived families in which parents are awaiting work authorization (e.g., Illinois, Maine, and Minnesota).</b></p>
<p><b>ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS</b></p>		
<p><b>Flexibility</b></p>	<p><b>Current policy</b></p>	<p><b>Potential improvement</b></p>
<p><b>Less frequent recertification periods</b></p> <p>Has Michigan extended the recertification period to 12 months for all recipients?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Online services for all application processes</b></p> <p>Does Michigan offer online services for its initial benefit application, reporting of changes, and renewal?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>