

Overview of SNAP Policy: Wyoming has not adopted the Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) guidelines for SNAP receipt, instead following SNAP’s federal guidelines. Only those Wyoming families with all members receiving either TANF or SSI are categorically eligible for food stamps. All others must pass the gross income tests at 130% FPL (or \$2,694/month for a family of three) and retain no more than \$2,750 in savings to qualify.

Wyoming has **eliminated its ban on eligibility for adults convicted of drug-related felonies and requires recipients to report income only when earnings rise above eligibility limits.**

Assessment of SNAP Policy: By adopting BBCE, Wyoming could **extend SNAP to more families by raising the gross income limit up to 200% FPL (or \$4,303/month for a family of three).** This would reduce benefit cliffs for families who currently lose SNAP at lower levels of income before it has fully “phased out” and further incentivize workforce participation. Under BBCE, Wyoming could also **eliminate or increase its asset limit test,** enabling families to retain and build savings for emergencies and larger purchases without losing benefit eligibility.

Treating child support payments to non-household members as income exclusions would extend eligibility to more families. **Using state funds to provide SNAP to immigrant households with children who are ineligible under federal regulations** would also 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 would offer more consistent support to low-income families through a challenging period.

Extending recertification periods to 12 months for all families would also significantly ease administrative burdens for working parents. Further, Wyoming could **provide online services for its initial application, change reporting, and renewals** to streamline SNAP processes for both program recipients and administrators.¹

¹ 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>.

| Wyoming's Food Stamps (SNAP) Policy | | |
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| WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS? | | |
| Flexibility | Current policy | Potential improvement |
| <p>Gross income limit</p> <p>How much can family members earn while being eligible?</p> | <p>\$2,797/month (or 130% FPL for a Wyoming family of three in 2024).</p> | <p>Consider adopting BBCE and extending the gross income limit to families earning up to \$4,303/month (200% FPL), as many states have done (e.g., Louisiana, Montana).</p> <p>Alternatively, Texas has increased gross income limit to \$3,550/month (165% FPL).</p> |
| <p>Asset Limit</p> <p>How many assets can families retain in savings while still being eligible for food stamps?</p> | <p>Families can retain up to \$2,750.</p> | <p>Remove the asset limit so that households with children can retain savings while receiving nutritional support (e.g., Georgia).</p> <p>Alternatively, raise the asset limit.</p> <p>Example: Texas permits \$5,000.</p> |
| <p>Transitional Benefit Alternative (TBA)</p> <p>Does Wyoming provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?</p> | <p>No.</p> | <p>Consider providing TBA to families transitioning from TANF cash assistance, as other states are doing (e.g., Arizona, Nebraska, Oklahoma).</p> |
| ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS | | |
| Flexibility | Current policy | Potential improvement |
| <p>Treatment of child support payments to non-household members</p> | | |

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| Does Wyoming treat child support payments made to non-household members as an income exclusion rather than a deduction? | No. | Enable more families to qualify for SNAP by treating child support payments as income exclusions in the eligibility process (e.g., Missouri, Colorado, South Dakota). |
| Lifting drug felony bans Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance? | Yes. | N/A |
| Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs Has Wyoming extended SNAP eligibility to immigrants who are ineligible for SNAP under federal guidelines? | No. | Provide nutritional assistance to newly-arrived families in which parents are awaiting work authorization (e.g., Illinois, Maine, and Minnesota). |
| ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS | | |
| Flexibility | Current policy | Potential improvement |
| Less frequent recertification periods Has Wyoming extended the recertification period to 12 months for all recipients? | No, households must recertify every six months or less. | Extend recertification periods to twelve months for all families with children to ease administrative costs and streamline support access (e.g., Oklahoma, Kansas). |
| Online services for all application processes Does Wyoming offer online services for its initial benefit application, reporting of changes, and renewal? | No. Families can submit applications by email, but there is no online portal for application processes. Parents must report changes by mail and orally. | Invest in online application services as other states have done to lower administrative costs and streamline access to nutritional support (e.g., Montana, Nebraska). |

