

California's Food Stamps (SNAP) Policy		
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
Gross income limit How much can a family of three earn and remain eligible?	\$4,303*/month for families eligible through Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE), or 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of three in 2024.	N/A
Asset Limit How many assets can families retain in savings while still being eligible for food stamps?	There is no limit on savings for BBCE-eligible families.	N/A
Transitional Benefit Alternative Does California provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?	Yes.	N/A
* Current administrative guidelines may present different income amounts depending on when updates to the current federal poverty guidelines are implemented.		
ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
Treatment of child support payments to non-household members Does California 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., New York, Virginia, Washington).

<p>Lifting drug felony bans</p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance?</p>	<p>California modified its ban to permit those with drug-related convictions to receive benefits if they are compliant with the terms of their probation.</p>	<p>Consider fully eliminating the ban on those convicted of drug-related felonies, as other states have done (e.g., Colorado, Oregon, Washington).</p>
<p>Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs</p> <p>Has California extended SNAP eligibility to immigrants who are ineligible for SNAP under federal guidelines?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Less frequent recertification periods</p> <p>Has California extended the recertification period to 12 months for all recipients?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Simplified income reporting</p> <p>Does California require parents to report income only when it rises above the eligibility limit?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Online services for all application processes</p> <p>Does California offer online services for its initial benefit application, reporting of changes, and renewal?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>