

Pennsylvania’s Food Stamps (SNAP) Policy		
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Gross income limit</p> <p>How much can a family of three earn and remain eligible?</p>	<p>\$4,303*/month for families eligible through the Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) framework, or 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of three in 2024.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Asset Limit</p> <p>How many assets can families retain in savings while still being eligible for food stamps?</p>	<p>There is no limit on savings for BBCE-eligible families.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Transitional Benefit Alternative</p> <p>Does Pennsylvania provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>* Current administrative guidelines may present different income amounts depending on when updates to the current federal poverty guidelines are implemented.</p>		
ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Treatment of child support payments to non-household members</p> <p>Does Pennsylvania treat child support payments made to non-household members as an income exclusion rather than a deduction?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Enable more families to qualify for SNAP by treating child support payments as income exclusions in the eligibility process, as other states have done (e.g., South Dakota, Michigan).</p>

<p>Lifting drug felony bans</p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance?</p>	<p>Pennsylvania re-instituted a modified ban in 2019 after having previously eliminated its SNAP ban entirely. Now, the state requires that those with a drug felony conviction participate in or complete court ordered drug treatment, be compliant with testing for five years, and be compliant with probation terms.</p>	<p>Consider fully eliminating the ban on those convicted of drug-related felonies, as other states have done (e.g., Illinois, Iowa).</p>
<p>Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs</p> <p>Has Pennsylvania extended SNAP eligibility to immigrants who are ineligible for SNAP under federal guidelines?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Provide nutritional assistance to newly-arrived families in which parents are awaiting work authorization (e.g., Illinois, Maine, Minnesota).</p>
<p>ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS</p>		
<p>Flexibility</p>	<p>Current policy</p>	<p>Potential improvement</p>
<p>Less frequent recertification periods</p> <p>Has Pennsylvania 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 Pennsylvania 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 Pennsylvania offer online services for its initial benefit</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

application, reporting of changes, and renewal?		
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