

Vermont’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>\$3,981*/month for families eligible through Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE), or 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of three in 2024.</p>	<p>Consider extending gross income limit to 200% FPL for BBCE-eligible families, as many other states do (e.g., Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts).</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 Vermont provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Consider providing SNAP to families transitioning from TANF cash assistance, as other states are doing (e.g., Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts).</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 Vermont 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 (e.g., Maine, New York, Rhode Island).</p>

<p>Lifting drug felony bans</p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs</p> <p>Has Vermont 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 Vermont 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 Vermont 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 Vermont offer online services for its initial benefit application, reporting of changes, and renewal?</p>	<p>No. Services are provided online only for the initial application.</p>	<p>Consider providing online change reporting and renewal services to reduce administrative costs and streamline processes for busy parents (e.g., Maine, New York).</p>