

West Virginia's Food Stamps (SNAP) Policy		
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p><b>Gross income limit</b></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 a Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of three in 2024.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Asset Limit</b></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><b>Transitional Benefit Alternative</b></p> <p>Does West Virginia provide families who are losing TANF cash assistance with automatic SNAP eligibility for a few months?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p><b>Consider providing TBA to families transitioning from TANF cash assistance, as other states are doing (e.g., North Carolina, Georgia).</b></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><b>Treatment of child support payments to non-household members</b></p> <p>Does West Virginia treat child support payments made to non-household members as an income exclusion rather than a deduction?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p><b>Enable more families to qualify for SNAP by treating child support payments as income exclusions in the eligibility process, as many other states are doing (e.g., South Dakota, Missouri).</b></p>

<p><b>Lifting drug felony bans</b></p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for nutritional assistance?</p>	<p>West Virginia has modified its ban to extend eligibility to those convicted of drug-related felonies. Individuals can retain eligibility unless their convictions involve the misuse of SNAP benefits, loss of life, or physical injury.</p>	<p><b>Consider eliminating the ban entirely, as other states have (e.g., Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky).</b></p>
<p><b>Extending eligibility to some federally ineligible noncitizens using state assistance programs</b></p> <p>Has West Virginia 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, 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 West Virginia extended the recertification period to 12 months for all recipients?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Simplified income reporting</b></p> <p>Does West Virginia require parents to report income only when it rises above the eligibility limit?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Online services for all application processes</b></p> <p>Does West Virginia offer online services for its initial benefit application, reporting of changes, and renewal?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>