

## Applying for SNAP

SNAP benefits are based on your individual income and expenses.

Just Harvest staff will complete a short eligibility screening with you over the phone and answer your questions about SNAP.

We can then fill out the application with you, also over the phone. The application is submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

After Just Harvest submits your application, you will need to send copies or photos of documents that verify your household's income, residence, and identity. You may also need to send in documents that verify some of your expenses. Just Harvest can help you with submitting your documents.

### What information will I need to apply?

- The names, birthdates, and social security numbers for all household members
- Information about your income
- Information about what you pay in rent/mortgage and which utilities you pay for
- If you pay for child care
- If you pay child support
- If you pay out-of-pocket medical expenses for anyone in your household who is 60 or older, or who has a disability.

## Find out if you qualify TODAY!

The PA Dept. of Human Services has contracted Just Harvest to provide free SNAP eligibility screenings and application assistance to residents of Allegheny County.

Our decades of experience allow us to help you with all of your SNAP questions, problems and concerns.

### Just Harvest's SNAP Team can:

- accurately and efficiently submit a SNAP application for you – saving you time, hassle, and stress while ensuring your privacy.
- assist you with annual re-certifications.
- provide case advocacy regarding unfairly denied, terminated, or incorrect benefits.

## Pennsylvania Income Guidelines

Household Size	Monthly Gross Maximum Income	Monthly Benefit Amount
1	\$2,430	\$23 - \$291
2	\$3,288	\$23 - \$535
3	\$4,144	up to \$ 766
4	\$5,000	up to \$973
5	\$5,858	up to \$1,116
For each extra household member	+\$858	up to +\$219

You can use our online calculator to see how much you may be eligible for at: <https://justharvest.org/snap-screener/>

Call Just Harvest at **412-431-8960 (option 3)** for a FREE 5-minute screening and complete your application over the phone!

**ON A TIGHT BUDGET?**

You may qualify for help with paying for **food**.

**Just Harvest can help you apply for SNAP Benefits**



**SNAP provides nutrition assistance to millions of eligible**

## What are SNAP Benefits?

SNAP, officially called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and sometimes referred to as food stamps, is a public benefit that you can use to help you and/or your family pay for food.

Many low-income households are eligible for SNAP benefits, which are automatically placed on their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card each month. This card is used much like a bank debit card at grocery stores to buy food.

You can use SNAP benefits to buy almost any food items at the grocery store or farmers market. SNAP cannot be used to purchase hot foods, alcohol or tobacco products, pet foods, or non-food items such as toiletries.



## You can apply for SNAP benefits even if you are not a US citizen.

If any of your family members are not eligible for these benefits, you can still apply for eligible family members.

**For mixed-status households claiming benefits for some family members,** part of the income of ineligible family members may be counted.

### Is it safe to apply?

Yes, federal and state laws protect your personal information when you apply for or receive public benefits. Also, you do not need to provide the immigration status of people in your household who are not getting benefits.

These immigration statuses **are always eligible** for SNAP benefits if they also meet the other income criteria:

- Refugees
- Asylees (this means you have been granted asylee status, not that you are still waiting for your hearing)
- Permanent residents under the age of 18
- Persons granted withholding of deportation or removal
- Amerasian immigrants,
- Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrant Visa holders,
- Victims of trafficking (T-Visa)

Immigrants with these statuses **can qualify depending on more specific rules:**

- Permanent residents who are over the age of 18
- Battered noncitizens, and their children/parents including Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitioners, family petitioners, and lawful permanent residents
- Humanitarian Parolees

Immigrants with these statuses are **not eligible:**

- Persons with temporary visas such as work, student or tourist visas
- People who do not have a legal status in the country

## **Will it impact my future immigration status?**

No, SNAP benefits are not part of the “public charge” test.

- Public charge does not apply to many immigrants, including many of the groups listed as always eligible, as well as green card holders who remain in the U.S.
- Most public benefits do not affect a person’s immigration status. These include SNAP, WIC, school meals, food banks, LIHEAP, section 8 and public housing, short-term Medicaid, Social Security, and others.
- The government only considers a few benefits in a public charge test: cash assistance programs like TANF and SSI, and institutional care through programs such as Medicaid.
- Non-cash benefits used by other family members will not affect your immigration status.

Visit [www.keepyourbenefits.org](http://www.keepyourbenefits.org) and get a free, personalized review.