

SNAP* Households

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps

What is a SNAP household?

A SNAP household is either a person living alone or a group of people living together who regularly purchase and prepare meals together.

Who will not be counted as part of a SNAP household?

Examples of people who will **NOT** be counted as part of a SNAP household include:

- Roomers and boarders
- Live-in attendants
- Students age 18 or older who are enrolled at least half-time at an institution of higher education and who do not meet special SNAP eligibility criteria for students
- Individuals in foster care that the household chooses not to count as part of their SNAP household
- Any other individuals who live in the household but do not usually purchase food and prepare meals with the household

Can I get benefits separately from other people I live with?

If you live with other people but you regularly buy and prepare your own food apart from them, you may be able to get your own SNAP benefits.

Who cannot be treated as a separate SNAP household?

Some people cannot be counted as separate SNAP households even if they buy and prepare their food separately. Examples include:

- Spouses who live together
- Children age 21 or younger who live with a parent or stepparent
- Children under age 18 who live with a responsible adult other than a parent

Are there special household rules for elderly and/or disabled individuals?

Yes. Individuals age 60 or older who have a permanent disability that **prevents them from purchasing and preparing meals** may be able to get SNAP separately from other people in their home. The disabled individual and their spouse may be counted together as a separate SNAP household. To use this rule, the gross income of the other people in the home cannot exceed 165% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Know Someone Who Wants to Apply? Tell them there are 3 ways to apply for SNAP: online at Virginia Common Help (www.commonhelp.virginia.gov), in person at their local Department of Social Services (DSS) office, or by mail.

For More Information, contact Virginia Hunger Solutions:

919 E Main St Suite 610 Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 782-9430 x17

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