



## Non-Citizen Eligibility for SNAP

Immigrants who have come to the United States, as a refugee or asylee, may be eligible for SNAP benefits. Applying for SNAP benefits will not affect any future application for Legal Permanent Residency (LPR) for citizenship. An immigrant will not be deported, denied entry to the U.S., or denied permanent status because their family receives SNAP.

### **Immigrants with LPR status may be eligible for SNAP.**

- For most adults, there is a 5-year waiting period, however, there are special statuses and circumstances that waive the 5-year waiting period. Some of these circumstances include: the individual is blind or disabled and receiving benefits for assistance for their condition, is lawfully residing in the U.S. and 65 or older on Aug. 22, 1996, or has a U.S. military connection.
- Children under the age of 18 with immigrant parents can get SNAP even if their parents are not eligible. If the child is a LPR or a citizen, their parent can apply for them.

#### No waiting period for:

- ✓ Refugees
  - ✓ Individuals granted asylum
  - ✓ Victims of severe trafficking
  - ✓ Deportation withheld
  - ✓ Amerasians
  - ✓ Cuban and Haitian entrants
  - ✓ Iraqi and Afghan special immigrants (SIV)
  - ✓ Certain American Indians born abroad
  - ✓ Hmong or Highland Laotian tribal members
  - ✓ Compacts of Free Association (COFA) citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau
- After the 5-year wait, LPRs who were sponsored to come to the U.S. will be asked to provide proof of their sponsor's income as part of the SNAP application.
  - Undocumented individuals or Visa holders are not eligible for SNAP, but their children may be. If applying for a child, the Department of Human Services will not ask for proof of immigration for the parents and will not share information about the household with USCIS or ICE.

**For more information, contact the Food Bank's  
Community Outreach team at 401-942-6325  
or visit [www.rifoodbank.org/snap-outreach](http://www.rifoodbank.org/snap-outreach).**



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