We've made it easier for college students who need help to get food assistance during COVID

Are you a student, age 18 to 49 enrolled at least half-time in a college, university, community college, or business, technical, trade, or vocational school that requires a high school diploma?

If so, you may be eligible for food assistance through New Jersey's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP is a federal program that can help individuals and families with low incomes buy the groceries they need to eat healthy. Eligibility depends on several factors like income, household size, resources, etc.

In addition to income eligibility factors, students also must fit at least ONE of the following requirements. **And during the federal public health emergency due to COVID-19, you can also meet the student criteria if you:**

• Are approved by your college or university to participate in federal or state work study, even if you are not actively participating in the work study; or,

• Have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of $0 for the current academic year, which is calculated in your FAFSA.

These will be in effect during and 30 days after the federal public health state of emergency ends.

You can also meet the student exemptions if you meet ONE of the following:

• Be enrolled in an approved Career and Technical Education Program at a New Jersey community college;

• Be employed at least 20 hours per week AND paid for such work;

• Be participating in a federal work study program during the school year;

• Be participating in an on-the-job training program;

• Be responsible for the care of a member of your household who is a dependent under the age of six years-old;

• Be a single parent enrolled full-time AND responsible for a dependent under the age 12 years-old;

• Be unable to work due to a physical or mental disability; or

• Be receiving Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits (cash assistance).

To apply or screen, visit NJSNAP.gov. Applicants can directly upload required documents online from a smartphone or computer.

State of New Jersey
Phil Murphy, Governor | Sheila Oliver, Lt. Governor

Department of Human Services
Sarah Adelman, Acting Commissioner