[ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR SNAP?](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

[**1. SNAP for Community college students:**](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Under a long-standing Massachusetts SNAP policy, the majority of low-income community college students may qualify for SNAP.  Students may be SNAP eligible if they meet any of the regular SNAP student rules below **OR:**](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

* [The student is in a certificate or degree program that the college considers a "career and technical education" program or major as defined under the Perkins Allocation Grant. Most course of study and certificate programs tend to fall under this definition (the Perkins Allocation grant is money that the colleges get for programming, not financial aid).](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)
* [Any degree program or course of study that the college believes will help the student become more employable.](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Massachusetts adopted in this expanded policy in 2010 to allow more low income community college student to qualify for SNAP.](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[**2. SNAP for 2 & 4 year college students:**](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Low-income students in public or private colleges may ALSO qualify for SNAP if they meet one of the following:](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

* [Receive the state-funded MassGrant  (a needs-based financial aid) of *any amount.*](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)
* [Receive federal Work Study and have a work study placement](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)
* [Are working an average of 20 hours a week in a job, OR](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)
* [Meet other rules such as have a child, pregnant, are disabled, etc](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Massachusetts DTA adopted the MassGrant policy for SNAP in August of 2017 based on how the MassGrant program is funded.](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[**SNAP Advocacy Resources for Students:**](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[We have created some fliers that explain the SNAP eligibility rules to students on our Food4Student webpage.  This webpage also includes links to the policy.](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Of course, there are other federal SNAP rules that will determine if the student qualifies. SNAP look at their countable income (earned or unearned), the income of parents (if the student is under age 22 and lives at home with their parents), the income of a spouse if married and living with the spouse.  And if the student's lives with his/her family who already gets SNAP, they must be part of that SNAP household.  The SNAP rules also limit benefits to US citizens and certain legally present immigrants. So, it’s not a 100% "slam dunk." But it is important to know that more low-income students may qualify for SNAP in Massachusetts but not know how to apply or what the rules are.](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[Apply for SNAP benefits (food stamps) | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

[*www.mass.gov › how-to › apply-for-snap-benefits-foo...*](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-snap-benefits-food-stamps)

Do you need help buying fresh, nutritious food? You may be eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (**SNAP**), also known as food stamps.

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| --- | --- |
| [Emergency SNAP benefits](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/emergency-snap-benefits)Emergency SNAP benefits are for SNAP applicants that need food ... | [SNAP verifications](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/snap-verifications-what-information-you-need-to-provide)Find out what documents or information you will need to ... |
| [Am I eligible for SNAP](https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/screening)Am I eligible for SNAP. Find out if you may be eligible in 10 ... | [Department of Transitional ...](https://www.mass.gov/lists/department-of-transitional-assistance-program-eligibility-charts-and-tables)Department of Transitional Assistance program eligibility ... |
|  |

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR SNAP?

**1. SNAP for Community college students:**

Under a long-standing Massachusetts SNAP policy, the majority of low-income community college students may qualify for SNAP.  Students may be SNAP eligible if they meet any of the regular SNAP student rules below **OR:**

* The student is in a certificate or degree program that the college considers a "career and technical education" program or major as defined under the Perkins Allocation Grant. Most course of study and certificate programs tend to fall under this definition (the Perkins Allocation grant is money that the colleges get for programming, not financial aid).
* Any degree program or course of study that the college believes will help the student become more employable.

Massachusetts adopted in this expanded policy in 2010 to allow more low income community college student to qualify for SNAP.

**2. SNAP for 2 & 4 year college students:**

Low-income students in public or private colleges may ALSO qualify for SNAP if they meet one of the following:

* Receive the state-funded[MassGrant](http://www.mass.edu/osfa/programs/massgrant.asp)  (a needs-based financial aid) of *any amount.*
* Receive federal Work Study and have a work study placement
* Are working an average of 20 hours a week in a job, OR
* Meet other rules such as have a child, pregnant, are disabled, etc

Massachusetts DTA adopted the MassGrant policy for SNAP in August of 2017 based on how the MassGrant program is funded.

**SNAP Advocacy Resources for Students:**

We have created some fliers that explain the SNAP eligibility rules to students on our [Food4Student webpage](https://www.masslegalservices.org/food4students).  This webpage also includes links to the policy.

Of course, there are other federal SNAP rules that will determine if the student qualifies. SNAP look at their countable income (earned or unearned), the income of parents (if the student is under age 22 and lives at home with their parents), the income of a spouse if married and living with the spouse.  And if the student's lives with his/her family who already gets SNAP, they must be part of that SNAP household.  The SNAP rules also limit benefits to US citizens and certain legally present immigrants. So, it’s not a 100% "slam dunk." But it is important to know that more low-income students may qualify for SNAP in Massachusetts but not know how to apply or what the rules are.