



Helping EOC/ATTAIN Students Enroll In SNAP

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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Food Insecurity and Students
- Understanding SNAP
- SNAP Rules for Students
- From SNAP Application to Benefit Card
- Assisting EOC/ATTAIN Students with SNAP
- Questions/Discussion

Please submit questions using Q&A button.

Hunger Solutions New York is a statewide anti-hunger organization.

We increase **awareness** of, **support** for, and **participation** in federal nutrition assistance programs.

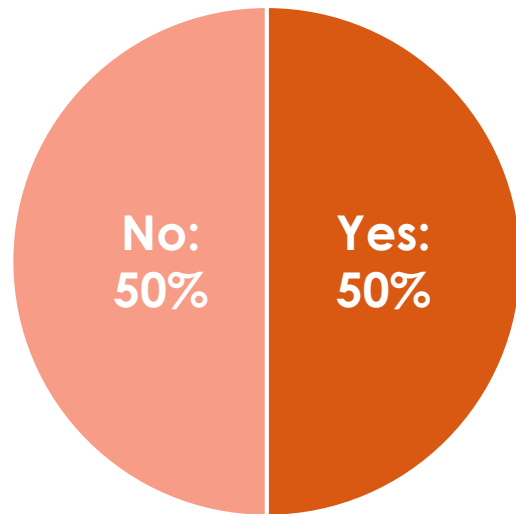
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Community Eligibility Program (CEP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Food Insecurity and Students

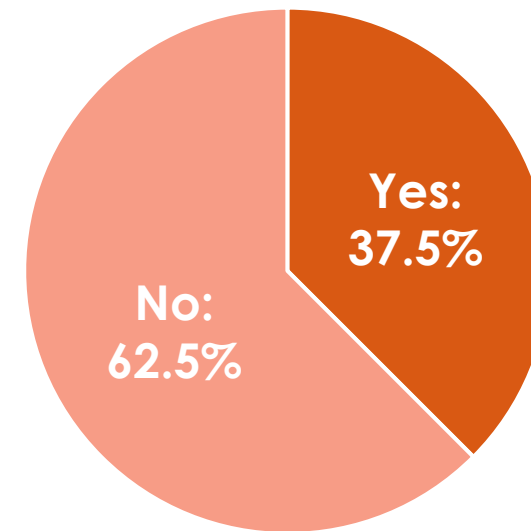


SUNY Food Insecurity Task Force Report – Survey of EOC Students

Were you ever hungry but didn't eat because you didn't have enough money for food?

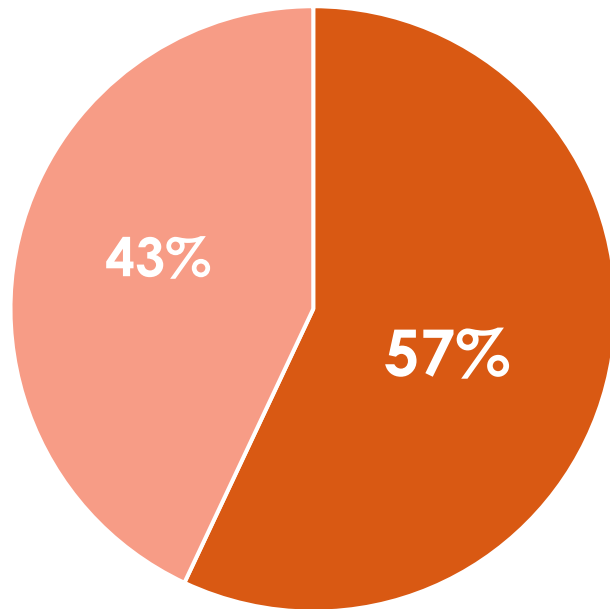


Have you ever been unable to study or focus because you were hungry, and could not afford food?



<http://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/university-life/FoodInsecurityTaskForce-summary1019.pdf>

Most Students with Low Incomes Didn't Get SNAP Before the Pandemic



57 percent of potentially eligible students (those who have low incomes, and at least one additional risk factor for food insecurity) are not enrolled in SNAP.

Source: Kathryn Larin, Food Insecurity: Better Information Could Help Eligible College Students Access Federal Food Assistance Benefits, U.S. Government Accountability Office, December 2018.

SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



What is SNAP?

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Our nation's primary nutrition assistance program, providing monthly benefits to purchase food for **all** who meet program guidelines.



SNAP Benefit Allotments

Congress has provided for a 15% boost to the maximum monthly SNAP benefit allotments through September 30, 2021.

SNAP Household Size	October – December 2020 Maximum SNAP Benefit amount	January – September 2021 Maximum SNAP Benefit Amount	Change in Benefit Amount
1	\$204	\$234	\$30
2	\$374	\$430	\$56
3	\$535	\$616	\$81

Congress has approved the following additional SNAP Benefits during the Pandemic:

- Monthly Emergency Allotments (EA)
- Pandemic EBT or P-EBT



Where can SNAP be used?

- SNAP can be used to buy groceries at authorized retailers
- SNAP cannot be used to buy **HOT prepared foods**
- SNAP cannot be used to pay for meal plans at an institution of higher learning

SNAP Rules for Students



Definitions



Household

People who live together and purchase and prepare food together



Student

Any person who is:

- 18 to 49 years old
- Physically and mentally fit
- Enrolled at least half time in an institution of higher learning



Institution of Higher Education

Any Institution at the post high school level that normally requires a high school diploma for enrollment.

- Colleges, Universities, Business schools,
- Vocational schools, Trade or Technical schools,
- Correspondence schools, On-line courses, and
- Degree programs regardless of whether a high school diploma is required.

Meeting a Student Exemption

Students must meet an exemption in order to be an “eligible student” under SNAP rules.

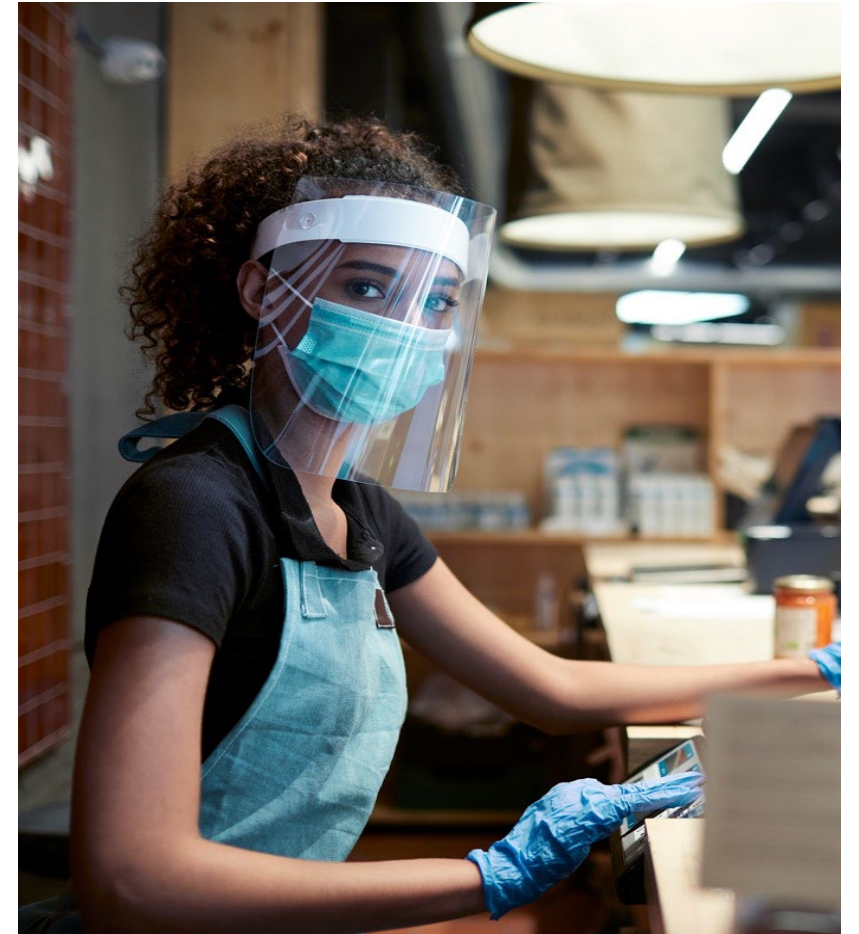
Exemptions include the following:

- Working (20 hrs/wk, eligible for work-study), or
- Individual characteristics (age, financial aid, primary caregiver, or unfit for work), or
- Participating in a qualifying government program (unemployment, Family Assistance, Safety Net Assistance)

New Exemption Specific to EOC/ATTAIN

In October OTDA provided a new exemption category around Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

- A student who attends an Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), and
- Is enrolled in a:
 - qualified CTE program, or
 - remedial courses, basic adult education, literacy, or ESL



Documenting the CTE Exemption

Students must provide proof to the SNAP office that they meet an exemption in order to be determined a SNAP eligible student.

[SUNY/CUNY/EOC Student Verification of Enrollment](#)

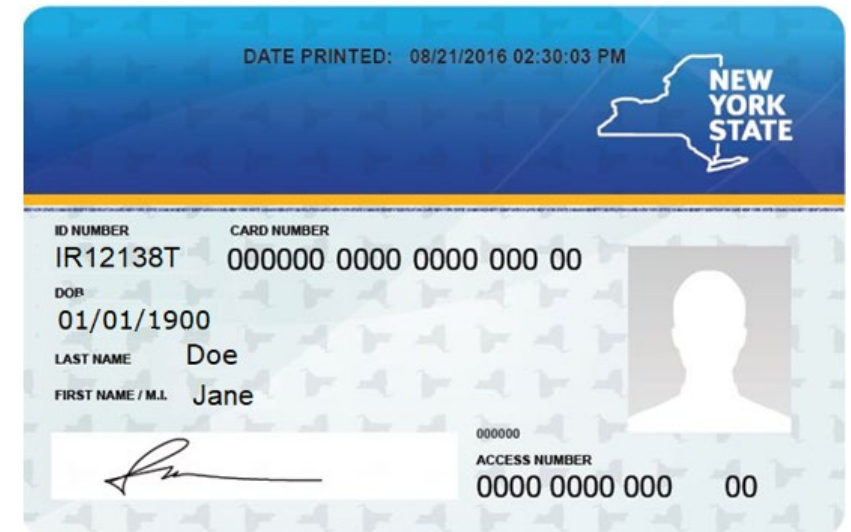
Continuing Eligibility of Students

Eligible students/Ineligible students remain eligible/ineligible between school breaks (vacations, summer, etc.) unless:

- the student graduates,
- is suspended or expelled,
- drops out, or
- does not intend to register for the next school term (excluding summer semesters).

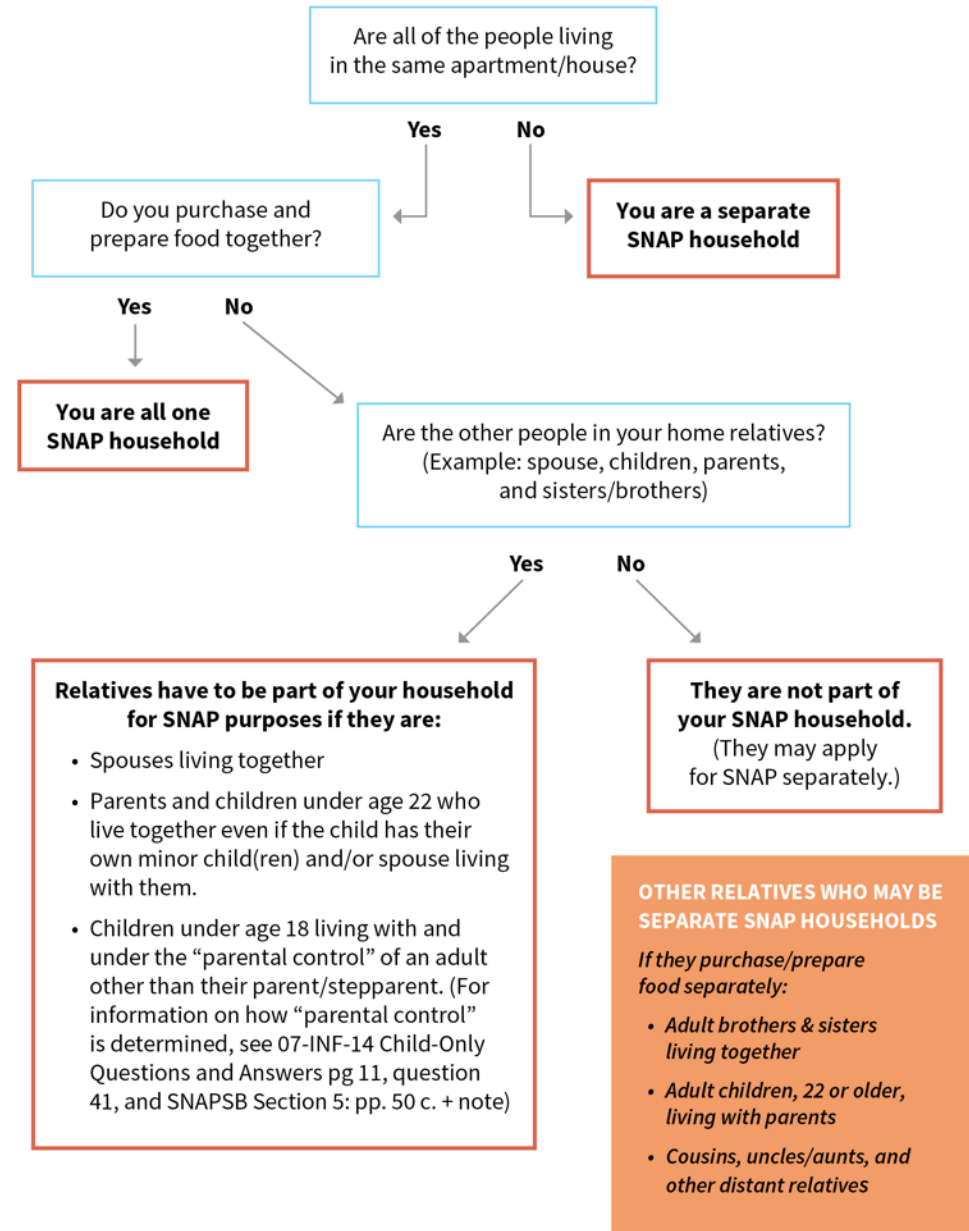


From SNAP Application to Benefit Card



Household Composition Guide

To determine who is included in a SNAP household, ask these questions:



Immigrant Eligibility

Among the most complicated rules in SNAP are those applied to non-citizens. It is important to remember that:

- This applies only to non-citizens who are **legally present in the country**.
- Naturalized citizens (immigrants who become citizens) are eligible to receive the same benefits as all other citizens.
- **Undocumented non-citizens**—those who cannot prove that they are legally present in this country—are never eligible for SNAP.

Determining Income Eligibility for SNAP

Federal Poverty Limit (FPL) Monthly Gross Income Test by Family Size

Family Size	200% FPL	150% FPL	130% FPL
1	\$2,126	\$1,595	\$1,383
2	\$2,873	\$2,155	\$1,868
3	\$3,620	\$2,715	\$2,353
4	\$4,366	\$3,275	\$2,839
5	\$5,113	\$3,835	\$3,324
6	\$5,860	\$4,395	\$3,809
7	\$6,606	\$4,955	\$4,295
8	\$7,353	\$5,515	\$4,780
Each Additional Person	+\$746	\$560	+\$486

200% FPL: households containing elderly and/or disabled members or that have out-of-pocket dependent care costs

150% FPL: households with earned income that do not meet 200% criteria

130% FPL: households not meeting criteria for 200% or 150% can be categorically eligible at 130%

Applying for SNAP in NYS

People must apply for SNAP by filing an application at their local SNAP office.

There are several ways to apply:

Online Application:

- New York City: access.nyc.gov
- Rest of State: mybenefits.ny.gov

Paper Applications

- at SNAP office
- print from OTDA website
- request one be mailed from SNAP office
- alternative format applications

Application Timeline

When the SNAP office receives an application it has 30 days to act on the application and issue SNAP benefits if the household is eligible.

During this timeframe the SNAP office must:

- Screen for Expedited Benefits and provide in 7 days
- Interview household
- Request any missing documentation (applicant has 10 days to submit)
- By end of 30 days must approve or deny application



SNAP Interview

All SNAP applicants must be interviewed.

The SNAP worker covers the following during an interview:

- review application,
- clarify any incomplete or confusing information,
- ask additional questions as needed, and
- provide a list of any missing documentation, and
- give the applicant at least 10 days to turn in the information.



Documentation and Verification

All eligibility criteria must be verified before the applicant can be determined to be eligible to receive a SNAP benefit.

SNAP offices use the following to verify information:

- Documents provided by the applicant,
- Collateral Contacts (people connected to applicant)
- Computer data matching



Uploading Documentation to the SNAP Office

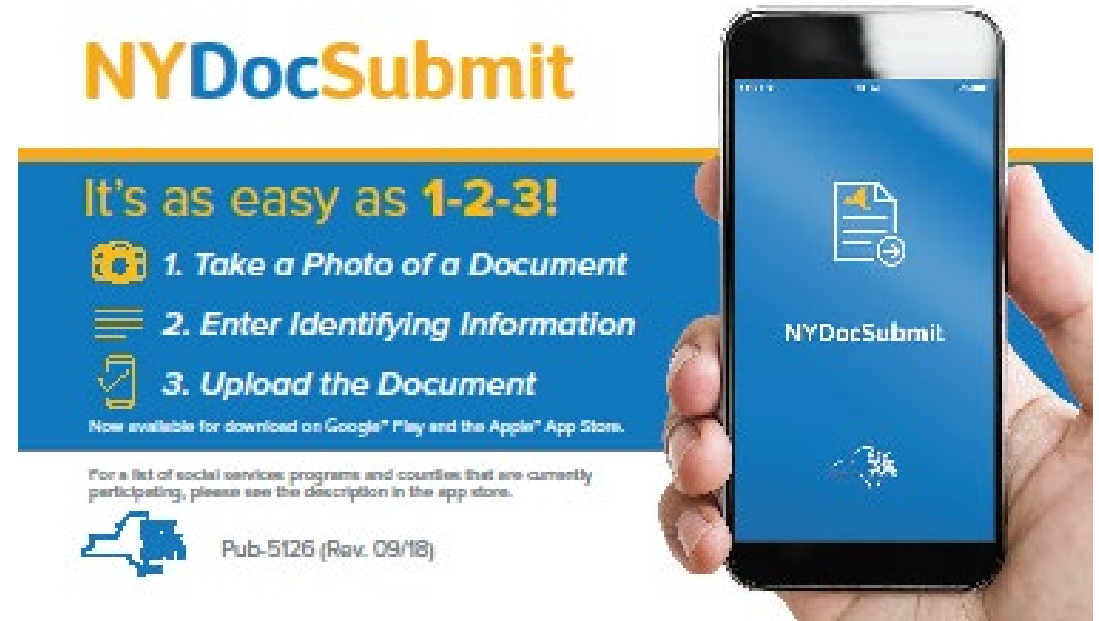
Applicants can upload documentation to the SNAP office using the following:

NYC Applicants

- Access HRA website,
- Access HRA mobile application




Rest of State Applicants

- myBenefits website
- NYDocSubmit mobile application




NYDocSubmit


It's as easy as **1-2-3!**

-  1. Take a Photo of a Document
-  2. Enter Identifying Information
-  3. Upload the Document

Now available for download on Google™ Play and the Apple™ App Store.

For a list of social services programs and counties that are currently participating, please see the description in the app store.

 Pub-5126 (Rev. 09/18)



Notification of Acceptance or Denial

The SNAP office must send a notice telling the applicant its decision within 30 calendar days of the application filing date.



If the applicant **qualifies for SNAP**, the notice of acceptance must:

- State how much the household's SNAP benefit will be, and
- Include the start and end dates of the certification period.



If the applicant **does not qualify for SNAP**, the notice of denial must:

- Explain the reason for the denial, and
- Provide the following:
 - Phone number of the SNAP office,
 - Contact at the SNAP office,
 - Information about the right to a fair hearing, and
 - How to get free legal aid.

Using the EBT Card

New York State uses an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) system to issue:

- SNAP benefits,
- TANF benefits, and
- Medicaid health insurance.

SNAP participants use their EBT cards in the machines at checkout counters, just like debit and credit cards.



Assisting Students with SNAP

Andres Vives

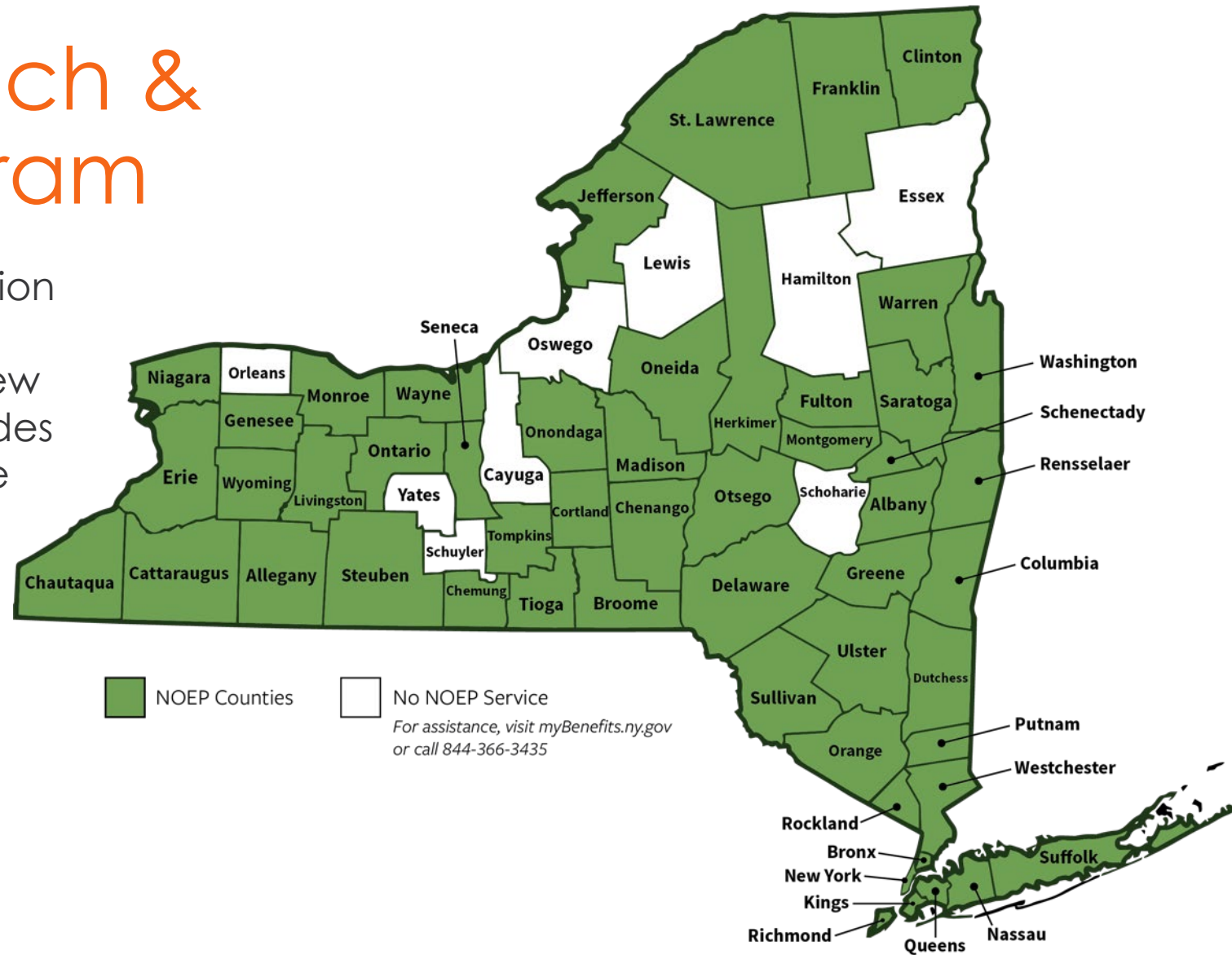
Interim Executive Director

Hunger Solutions New York

Nutrition Outreach & Education Program

The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) offers free and confidential services to connect New Yorkers with SNAP. NOEP also provides referrals to other nutrition assistance programs.

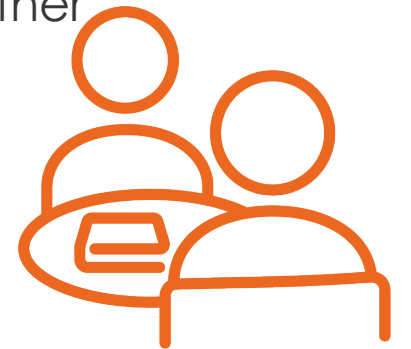
To find a local NOEP Coordinator, visit FoodHelpNY.org



NOEP Coordinators

- Community outreach campaigns, presentations and events
- Pre-screen for eligibility and provide estimated SNAP benefit
- Help gather documents, fill out, and submit a SNAP application
- Offer translation services, home visits, and in-person, e-mail, or over-the-phone assistance
- Work with local government offices (DSS) to ensure each application is processed correctly
- Help resolve barriers to SNAP participation (how to use EBT, incorrect benefit amt, etc.)
- Assist with recertifications
- Education and referrals about other nutrition assistance programs (summer meals, school meals)

ALL NOEP Services are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.



NOEP and Long Island EOC

Charles Miranda, Interim Executive Director, Long Island Educational Opportunity Center

Maria Matos, Bilingual Admissions Advisor, Long Island Educational Opportunity Center

Maria Carvajal, NOEP Coordinator, Health and Welfare Council of Long Island



How EOC/ATTAIN Staff Can Get Involved

- Customize [SNAP flyer](#) and share during registration or orientation process
- Complete verification form and deliver to student during initial conversations regarding SNAP
- Establish relationship between EOC/ATTAIN lab and local NOEP coordinator
 - [EOC contact info](#) is being finalized and will be uploaded to Hunger Solutions/UCAWD website
 - As counties north of the Bronx have one NOEP office, those NOEP coordinators should make initial outreach to EOC/ATTAIN
 - As counties south of Westchester have multiple NOEP offices, those EOC/ATTAIN staff members should make initial outreach to the local NOEP coordinator of their choice.

EOC and ATTAIN Lab Students:

Need help paying for groceries?

SNAP may be able to help, thanks to new rules.
SNAP provides monthly benefits on a debit card that you can use to buy food at grocery stores. Many more students may now be eligible.

How to apply:

1 To learn more and get your student verification form, contact:

2 Visit myBenefits.NY.gov to apply online.

Need help applying for SNAP?
The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) can help you apply for SNAP. It is free and confidential. Find your local NOEP Coordinator at FoodHelpNY.org or on the back of this flyer.

HUNGER SOLUTIONS NEW YORK
UNITE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO END HUNGER

HungerSolutionsNY.org

Funded by NYSOTDA, USDA/FNS, and New York State Health Foundation.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Hunger Solutions New York Can Help

Links to tools and resources for working with students:

[Find a Local NOEP Coordinator](#)

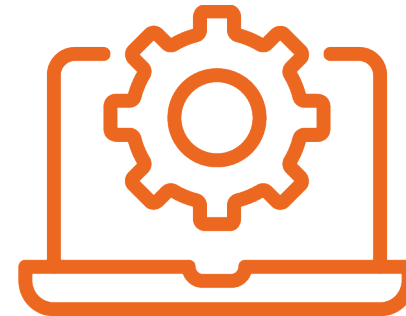
[Our SNAP and Students Page](#)

[Our SNAP Prescreening Guide](#)

[Categorical Eligibility Desk Guide](#)

[Household Composition Guide](#)

[NYSOTDA LDSS-3666](#)



Questions

Use Q&A function on your webinar panel.