

# Nebraska SNAP Income Limit Increase Fact Sheet



*After nearly a decade of community advocacy and support, thousands of Nebraskans can now take home small increases in income without fear of losing essential food benefits.*

## What recently changed about SNAP in Nebraska?

LB 108 became law on May 26, 2021 in Nebraska. This law increased income eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in Nebraska and will allow more Nebraskans to access food benefits. The maximum gross income limit for SNAP participants was previously 130% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and is now 165% (see chart below). The net income limit remains 100% of the FPL for all households (net income: gross income minus deductions like dependent care, earned income, etc.).

### NEW NEBRASKA SNAP ELIGIBILITY LIMITS (as of May 26, 2021)

Household Size	165% FPL Monthly Gross Income Limit	100% FPL Monthly Net Income Limit
1	\$1,770	\$1,073
2	\$2,395	\$1,452
3	\$3,020	\$1,830
4	\$3,643	\$2,208
5	\$4,269	\$2,587
Per +1 person, add:	\$626	\$378

\*The income limits above represent 2021 FPL which are active for SNAP on October 1, 2021. Limits are around \$15 per person lower than those noted above until then.

## What is SNAP?

SNAP, formerly called Food Stamps, is designed to provide food support to individuals and families struggling to make ends meet because of disability, lack of opportunity, or emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic. It is widely regarded as America's most important anti-hunger program, supporting individuals and families while also supporting local economies. As an entitlement program, SNAP is available to all who qualify.

## How did COVID impact SNAP in Nebraska?

COVID-19 caused a major increase in food insecurity and need in Nebraska. During the pandemic, SNAP participation rose significantly, peaking at 78,627 households in May of 2020. Currently about 9% of all Nebraskans, or about 160,000 people and 75,000 households, participate in SNAP.

## When can I apply for SNAP?

Individuals and families can apply for SNAP now through September 30, 2023. A sunset provision was included in the law to avoid using Nebraska general fund dollars to support administrative costs associated with the change. Typically, all SNAP benefits are paid by federal funds, but states are required to split all administrative costs associated with the program. While the increase is in effect, even the administrative costs are being covered through federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars specifically designated for this purpose.

## Help spread the word!

SNAP advocates, community organizations, workforce development groups, and others have a unique opportunity to invite people across our state to apply for SNAP. Those who were once denied because of earning too much money or who were forced off the program because of an increase in income may now be eligible!

# APPLY FOR SNAP TODAY

Call the Food Bank for the Heartland's SNAP Hotline at

# 855-444-5556

to see if you qualify or get help submitting an application.

Nebraska Appleseed is a nonprofit advocacy organization that fights for justice and opportunity for all Nebraskans. Learn more about our food and nutrition access work at [neappleseed.org](https://neappleseed.org).

Reach out to Megan Hamann at Nebraska Appleseed at 402-438-8853 ext. 142 or [mhamman@neappleseed.org](mailto:mhamman@neappleseed.org) with questions or for more information.

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