

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** February 11,2022

**TO:** Job Center Directors and Regional Managers, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Center Directors and Regional Managers, and HIV/AIDS Services Administration (HASA) Directors

**FROM:** DSS Office of Procedures

**SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Student Eligibility**

The purpose of this Center Director (CD) Memorandum is to remind Cash Assistance (CA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and HIV/AIDS Services Administration (HASA) staff of the SNAP student eligibility. Refer to [PB#20-70-ELI](#) and [PB#21-04-ELI](#).

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) has expanded the SNAP student eligibility criteria to include students (between 18 to 49 years old) attending a State University of New York (SUNY) or City University of New York (CUNY) comprehensive college, technology college or community college who are enrolled at least half-time in a qualified Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

Students attending an Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) in New York State and who are enrolled at least half-time in a career and technical education program, remedial courses, basic adult education, literacy, or English as a second language will also meet the SNAP student eligibility criteria.

In addition, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are temporary changes in SNAP student eligibility rules in the Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 that became law on December 27, 2020.

The legislation temporarily added two more ways to be a SNAP eligible student:

- being eligible to participate in state or federally financed work study, without actual participation; and
- having an “expected family contribution (EFC)” of \$0 in the current academic school year.

The additional ways for students to be eligible for SNAP will be in effect until 30 days after the COVID–19 federal public health emergency is lifted. This means that new applications received 30 days after the emergency has been lifted will be processed under normal student eligibility criteria. The same standard will apply to recertifications occurring more than 30 days after the end of the emergency declaration.

Students granted eligibility under the temporary changes will maintain student eligibility until the next recertification regardless of the emergency declaration being lifted at any time during the certification period.

If a student meets either of the two temporarily added ways to be a SNAP eligible student and does not meet any of the criteria already listed in the Paperless Office System (POS), staff should select college work study and must make a comment in POS stating which method they met.

The household is responsible for providing verification of a student being eligible to participate in college work study or of having an EFC of \$0. College work study would be listed on a financial aid package from the school, while the EFC is listed on the top right of the Student Aid Report (SAR) that is electronically or physically mailed to the student a few weeks after the filing of their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

*Effective Immediately*

**Related Items:**

[PB#20-70-ELI](#)

[PB#21-04-ELI](#)