



OFFICE OF POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND TRAINING

POLICY BULLETIN #23-28-ELI

END OF THE TEMPORARY STUDENT ELIGIBILITY EXEMPTIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

Date: May 10, 2023	Subtopic(s): SNAP Eligibility
<p>See PB #20-70-ELI for the SNAP student eligibility procedure which lists the <u>permanent</u> exemptions.</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform Benefits Access Center (BAC), HIV/AIDS Services Administration (HASA) and Non-Cash Assistance (NCA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Center staff of the schedules for the ending of the temporary student eligibility exemptions for SNAP because of the ending of the federal public health emergency (PHE).</p> <p>The federal PHE will be expiring on May 11th, 2023 and the temporary student eligibility exemptions (detailed on the following page) will remain in effect for an additional 30 days in the following manner:</p> <p>For new applications, the temporary student eligibility exemptions can be applied to applications submitted on or before June 9, 2023. After that date, only the permanent student eligibility exemptions can be considered when determining SNAP eligibility.</p> <p>The eligibility is based on the date the new application was submitted, not the date that the case is being processed.</p> <p>For students recertifying, the temporary student eligibility exemptions can be applied to recertifications submitted by June 30, 2023. Recertifications submitted on or after July 1, 2023, must be processed using only the permanent student eligibility exemptions.</p> <p>The eligibility is based on the date that that the recertification was submitted, not the date that the recertification is being processed.</p> <p>SNAP participants currently certified under a temporary student eligibility exemption retain that exemption until their next recertification.</p>

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?
 Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or
 send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center Fax* or fax to: (917) 639-0298

See PB #21-04-ELI for the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

The following temporary SNAP student eligibility exemptions were created by the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 are ending as detailed above:

- being eligible to participate in a State or federally financed work study program, without actual participation; and
- having an “expected family contribution (EFC)” of \$0 on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in the current academic school year

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) published the End of the Temporary COVID-19 Student Eligibility Exemptions Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) (**Attachment A**).

References:

GIS 21 TA/DC004
GIS 23 TA/DC033

Related Items:

[PB #21-04-ELI](#) Impacts of the Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021
[PB #20-70-ELI](#) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Student Eligibility
[CD #22-02](#) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Student Eligibility

Attachment:

Attachment A End of the Temporary COVID-19 Student Eligibility Exemptions Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

End of the Temporary COVID-19 SNAP Student Eligibility Exemptions Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are the temporary student eligibility exemptions for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)?

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 created two temporary SNAP eligibility exemptions for students enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This legislation expanded SNAP eligibility by providing temporary exemptions from SNAP student eligibility requirements to two groups of college students:

- Students eligible for a work study program (actual participation in a program was not required);
- Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0 on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Why are the temporary student eligibility exemptions ending?

The temporary student eligibility exemptions are scheduled to end because the federal public health emergency (PHE) is expiring on May 11th, 2023. Once the PHE declaration ends, the temporary exemptions will remain in effect for an additional 30 days. This means that the temporary student exemptions end for initial SNAP applications filed on or after **June 10, 2023**. For ongoing households, the temporary exemptions end at the household's next recertification, beginning **July 1, 2023**.

Who is affected by the end of the temporary student eligibility exemptions?

Only students who were determined eligible for SNAP because they met one of the temporary eligibility exemptions listed above are impacted. However, these students may still be eligible for SNAP because they meet the criteria for one of the other, permanent student eligibility criteria (see below).

When do these changes go into effect?

Following the PHE expiration on May 11, 2023, there is a period for which SNAP applications and recertifications can continue to be processed using the temporary exemptions.

For new applications, the temporary student exemptions can be applied to applications submitted **on or before June 9, 2023**. After that date, only the permanent exemptions can be considered when determining eligibility.

For students **recertifying**, the temporary student exemptions can be applied to recertifications **submitted by June 30, 2023**. Recertification applications **submitted** through June 30, 2023, must be processed using the temporary student exemptions, regardless of when the recertification is processed or the household's expiring certification end date. Recertifications **submitted** on or after July 1, 2023, must be processed using only the permanent exemption criteria. Students in households that submit their recertification application by June 30, 2023, and are recertified retain their temporary student exemption until their next recertification.

What do these students have to do when the temporary eligibility exemptions end?

Students already receiving SNAP under one of the temporary student eligibility exemptions will continue to be eligible for and receive SNAP until their next recertification. Students in households that submit their recertification applications after June 30, 2023, will need to meet one of the permanent student eligibility exemptions (listed below) to continue to qualify for SNAP benefits.

What are the permanent student eligibility exemptions?

Individuals between the ages of 18 and 49 and enrolled at least half-time at an institution of higher education are generally ineligible for SNAP unless they meet a student exemption. By meeting any of these ongoing exemptions, an individual can be determined an “eligible student” and may be determined eligible for SNAP provided they meet all other program criteria.

Students qualify for a permanent student exemption if they:

- Are under age 18 or are age 50 or older.
- Have a physical or mental disability.
- Work at least 20 hours a week in paid employment.
- Participate in a State or federally financed work study program.
- Participate in an on-the-job training program.
- Care for a child under the age of 6.
- Care for a child between the ages 6 to 11 and lack the necessary child care enabling you to attend school and work 20 hours a week or participate in work study.
- Are single parents enrolled full-time in college and taking care of a child under 12.
- Receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- Are assigned to, placed in, or self-placed in a college or other institution of higher education through certain employment and training programs, such as the SNAP Employment & Training program.

Where can I find additional food resources in my community?

Food pantries provide free food to people in their communities. To connect to a local food bank or pantry, visit: [Need Food?—Feeding New York State \(feedingnys.org\)](http://feedingnys.org) or the [Food Pantries Food Connect Map](#).

To learn more about student support available through:

- SUNY, visit [Food Insecurity—SUNY](#).
- CUNY, visit [Food Security Resources—Healthy CUNY](#).