

# How do I apply?

Apply in person, online, or by mail or fax!

- You can apply at any Office of Public Assistance (OPA). Offices are located in:

Anaconda	Fort Benton	Miles City
Baker	Glasgow	Missoula
Big Timber	Glendive	Plentywood
Billings	Great Falls	Polson
Bozeman	Hamilton	Red Lodge
Browning	Hardin	Roundup
Butte	Harlem	Shelby
Chinook	Havre	Sidney
Choteau	Helena	Superior
Columbus	Kalispell	Terry
Conrad	Lame Deer	Thompson Falls
Cut Bank	Lewistown	Wh. Sul. Springs
Deer Lodge	Libby	Wolf Point
Dillon	Livingston	
Forsyth	Malta	

- Apply online at [www.app.mt.gov/mtc](http://www.app.mt.gov/mtc).
- Mail or fax your application to the OPA.
- Applications can be printed at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/publicassistance/hcs250.pdf>.
- You can call the OPA and ask if you qualify for a telephone interview.
- You can have another adult apply on your behalf.

Not sure if you want to apply?  
Complete the easy and confidential pre-screening tool:

[www.app.mt.gov/mtc](http://www.app.mt.gov/mtc)

## When you have your SNAP interview, you will need to bring:

- Personal identification (such as a driver's license, library card, Medicare card or doctor's bill)
- Social Security numbers for everyone for whom you are applying (actual card usually not required)
- Proof of your rent and utility expenses (such as bills, receipts, lease agreement or mortgage)
- Proof of your income (such as pay stubs or verification of Social Security, Disability, unemployment benefits, etc.)

For more information,  
please contact the  
Montana Food Bank Network:  
**1-800-809-4752**  
[snap@mfbn.org](mailto:snap@mfbn.org)



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# Buying Good Food is a SNAP!



- \* **Stretch food dollars**
- \* **Support the local economy**
- \* **Eat well and stay healthy**

# Now is the time to check out SNAP!



NEW: For many applicants, INCOME LIMITS HAVE INCREASED.

NEW: For many applicants, there is NO LONGER A RESOURCE LIMIT.

**NEW: Apply for SNAP online!**  
**Online application and pre-screening tool available from Montana Connections:**  
[www.app.mt.gov/mtc](http://www.app.mt.gov/mtc)

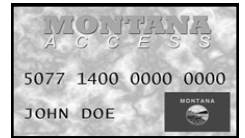
## SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

(Formerly known as the Food Stamp Program)

*A program designed to help people make ends meet and afford healthy food.*

### SNAP is...

- **Important** - More than 120,000 Montanans (approximately 1 in 8 people) have discovered the buying power of SNAP. SNAP provides support to hard-working folks during tough times.
- **Valuable** - SNAP brought over \$170 million of federal money into Montana last year, benefitting local grocers, farmers and Montana's economy.
- **Available to everyone who qualifies** - There are enough benefits for everyone. Participating in SNAP does NOT take benefits away from anyone who needs them more.
- **Essential for healthy families** - Nearly 80% of SNAP benefits go to households with children, and 40% of recipients live in households where at least one person is employed.
- **Convenient and discreet** - Benefits come on a card that looks and works like a bank debit card. Using the card to pay for food is fast and simple.



### Did you know?

#### MONTHLY BENEFIT:

The minimum monthly benefit is \$16, but most families and seniors receive much more than that. The average benefit in Montana is about \$130 per person per month.

#### THE INTERVIEW:

An interview is required for enrollment in SNAP, but if it is difficult to get to the office, you can request to the interview over the phone or have an authorized representative attend the interview for you.

#### SENIORS:

You can receive SNAP benefits and still get senior commodities and meals-on-wheels.

### SNAP Income Guidelines

(Effective Oct. 1, 2011)

**To qualify for SNAP, you need to meet two income guidelines:**

1. The first step is meeting the Gross Guideline. **If you meet this guideline, turn in an application to see if you also meet the Net Guideline.**

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income*
1	\$1,816
2	\$2,452
3	\$3,090
Add'l Members	+ \$636

\*Households with a previously disqualified member will need to meet a lower Gross Income Limit.

2. When you apply, your case worker will deduct a portion of your living expenses from your income to see if you meet the Net Guideline. **Your Net Income for SNAP cannot be calculated until you submit an application.**

Household Size	Net Monthly Income
1	\$908
2	\$1,226
3	\$1,545
Add'l Members	+ \$319