## How do I apply?

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

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

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

- Call the Montana Food Bank Network or your OPA to request an application by mail.
- Mail or fax your application to the OPA.
- Apply online at <u>www.app.mt.gov/mtc</u>.
- Applications can be printed at http://dphhs.mt.gov/publicassistance/ hcs250.pdf.
- 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

## 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/mortgage, utility, and childcare expenses (such as bills, receipts, lease agreement or mortgage)
  \*Seniors or individuals with disabilities should also bring proof of medical expenses
- 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:
406-721-3825
snap@mfbn.org





### 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!

For many applicants, there is NO LONGER A RESOURCE LIMIT & GROSS INCOME LIMITS HAVE INCREASED!

Apply for SNAP online!
Online application and
pre-screening tool available from
Montana Connections:
www.apply.mt.gov



#### MONTHLY BENEFIT:

The minimum monthly benefit is \$15, but most families and seniors receive much more than that. The average benefit in Montana is nearly \$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 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 1 in 8 Montanans (125,000 individuals) have discovered the buying power of SNAP. SNAP provides support to hard-working folks during tough times.
- **Valuable** SNAP brought over \$195 million into Montana last year, benefitting local grocers, farmers, and Montana's economy.
- Available to everyone who qualifies There are <u>enough benefits for everyone</u>. Participating in SNAP does NOT take benefits away from anyone who needs them more.
- Essential for healthy families More than 80% of SNAP benefits go to households with a child, a senior, or a person with a disability. In MT, more than 1/3 of SNAP households have at least one person 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.

#### **SNAP Income Guidelines**

(Effective Oct. 1, 2013)

#### 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	\$1,916
2	\$2,586
3	\$3,256
Add'l Members	+ \$670

\*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.

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Household	Net Monthly
Size	Income
1	\$958
2	\$1,293
3	\$1,628
Add'l Members	+ \$335