

SNAP Pathways to Head Start

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SNAP FACTS



- Nationally in March 2022 SNAP served more than 41 million individuals
- In an average month in FY 2019, SNAP served more than 3 million children ages 2 to 4
- SNAP provides benefits for food purchases via Electronic Benefit Transfer cards for use at authorized retailers
- Each \$1 in SNAP benefits during a downturn generates between \$1.50 and \$1.80 in economic activity

SNAP Is Targeted to High Need Households

- Like Head Start/Early Head Start, SNAP is an anti-poverty program
- Gross income below 130-200% poverty and net income at or below 100 percent of poverty (net after SNAP deductions, e.g., child care expenses)
- Average gross cash income for SNAP households in FY 2019 was only \$872 a month

SNAP Benefits Are Modest

--In March 2022 the average SNAP allotment was only \$7.35 a person a day

--When temporary COVID-19 benefit boosts end, the average per person per day SNAP allotment will fall to a mere \$5.50.

--At that “hunger cliff” point, most SNAP participants will lose \$82 a person a month in SNAP benefits.

SNAP Streamlines Pathway to Head Start

- EBT card with SNAP ID # or
- Copy of notice of approval or
- Other documentation of benefits or eligibility from SNAP agency

<https://nhsa.org/resource/webinar-snapping-our-fingers-for-snap/>

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im/acf-im-hs-22-03>

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/eligibility-ersea/article/snap-public-assistance-head-start-eligibility-faqs>

<https://nhsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SNAP-Toolkit.pdf>



Closing SNAP Gaps

- SNAP gap: nearly 1 in 5 eligible people missed
- State SNAP gaps vary widely
- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/reaching-those-need-estimates-state-2018> ■
- Closing SNAP Gaps reports outline strategies

<https://frac.org/programs/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/closing-the-snap-gap>

SNAP Stakeholders Value Outreach and Partnerships

USDA reimburses states for half of SNAP outreach projects' costs

Many local non-profits partner with states on SNAP outreach

Annual state SNAP outreach plans are due by August 15

https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SNAP_Outreach_Guide_%20July_2017.pdf

Head Start – SNAP Partnerships

- Data Sharing & Matching
- Conduct Outreach & Awareness
- Establish Coordination – Referral Streams
- Cross Training



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