



Eligibility for SNAP Benefits Expands

By Lisa Boscola

BETHLEHEM - Wolf Administration Marks Hunger Action Month By Expanding Eligibility For SNAP Benefits, Securing Food Assistance For More Pennsylvanians

Effective October 1, Pennsylvania will increase the income threshold for all Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applicants to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIG). With this change, more than 420,000 additional Pennsylvanians in more than 174,000 households will be newly eligible for SNAP and will receive, on average, \$63 a month.

Beginning on October 1, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) will expand Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) for SNAP. While SNAP is a federal program and SNAP benefits are funded through the federal budget, states administer eligibility and issuance of benefits. BBCE is a policy that gives states, including Pennsylvania, the flexibility to determine appropriate income thresholds and extend SNAP benefits to low-income families and individuals who would otherwise struggle to afford food. DHS currently uses BBCE flexibility to set income thresholds

to 160 percent of the FPIG for households that do not have elderly or disabled members.

With this change, the household monthly income limits for all households to be eligible for SNAP are as follows:

Household Size 200% Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

1	\$2,266
2	\$3,052
3	\$3,840
4	\$4,626
5	\$5,412
6	\$6,200
7	\$6,986
8	\$7,772
9	\$8,560
10	\$9,348

Each additional member \$788

Applications for SNAP and other public assistance programs can be submitted online at www.compass.state.pa.us.

SNAP applications are also accepted by phone by calling the Consumer Service Center at 1-866-550-4355.

SNAP ELIGIBILITY

NO PENNSYLVANIAN SHOULD GO HUNGRY.

Starting October 1, 2022, more Pennsylvanians can get help to put food on their tables



dhs.pa.gov/SNAP

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Garnishing PA Lottery Winnings & State Tax Refund to Collect Unpaid Turnpike Tolls

By Lisa Boscola

BETHLEHEM - I have introduced new legislation targeting the ongoing issue of unpaid turnpike tolls, by garnishing PA lottery winnings and state tax refunds of offenders with unpaid tolls.

From April 2021 to March 2022, the Turnpike reported a projected total of \$155 million in unpaid tolls. That is up 49% from the previous year.

Unfortunately, the law-abiding turnpike users are being punished by this loss in toll revenue, with continued toll increases year after year. It is imperative we step up enforcement and give the turnpike tools to go after these repeated offenders.