SNAP Benefits for Students

The Department of Social Services offers Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to provide adequate nutrition to low-income South Dakotans as they work to become self-sufficient. Students who attend an accredited school or college may be eligible for SNAP benefits.

A student is defined as any person between the ages of 18 and 50 who is physically and mentally fit and is enrolled at least half time in an accredited school or college. In order to qualify, a student must meet at least one of the following criteria:

✓ Work in a paid position at least 80 hours per month. If self-employed, he or she must work at least 80 hours a month and earn the federal minimum hourly wage times 80.

✓ Participate in a federal or state-financed work-study program during the regular school year.

✓ Be responsible for the care of a dependent household member under age 6.

✓ Be responsible for the care of a dependent household member who has reached age 5 but is under age 12, where the Benefits Specialist has determined adequate child care is not available.

✓ Be a single parent responsible for the care of a dependent child under age 12 and enrolled full-time in an accredited school or college.

✓ Be receiving benefits from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

✓ Be assigned to or placed in an accredited school or college through a program through an on-the-job training program or under the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), or Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) programs.
For more information or to apply for SNAP benefits, contact

SNAP Office
Economic Assistance
Department of Social Services
700 Governors Dr
Pierre, SD 57501-2291
1.877.999.5612

dss.sd.gov/economicassistance/snap

For a list of local offices, visit
dss.sd.gov/findyourlocaloffice