

CASH AND FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY CHART BY IMMIGRATION STATUS

Updated: December 2008

Immigrant Status	Food Stamps/SNAP	EAEDC Cash Assistance	Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
U.S. citizens (born in the United States or naturalized) and Native Americans	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Refugee, asylee, Cuban or Haitian entrant, person granted withholding of deportation or removal, Amerasian immigrant	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible without time limitation if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ received SSI or had application pending on August 22, 1996; ▪ lawfully resided in the United States on August 22, 1996, and is disabled; or ▪ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work Otherwise eligible for SSI for seven years after granted status
Adult lawful permanent resident, parolee (if granted parole for at least one year)	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ has lived in the United States as qualified immigrant for <u>five years</u>;* or ▪ receiving a disability benefit; or ▪ lawfully resided in the United States and was 65 on August 22, 1996; or ▪ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work 	Eligible	Eligible if physically entered the United States before August 22, 1996 If physically entered the United States after August 22, 1996, eligible after having lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ received SSI or had application pending on August 22, 1996; ▪ lawfully resided in the United States on August 22, 1996, and is disabled; or ▪ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work and has lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>*

*In this context "qualified immigrant" means (1) lawful permanent resident, (2) parolee for at least one year, (3) conditional entrant, or (4) certain abused noncitizens and their children and parents.

**CASH AND FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY CHART
BY IMMIGRATION STATUS (continued)**

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Children—lawful permanent resident, parolee for at least one year	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible if physically entered the United States before August 22, 1996 If physically entered the United States after August 22, 1996, eligible after having lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ received SSI or had application pending on August 22, 1996; ■ lawfully resided in the United States on August 22, 1996, and is disabled; or ■ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work and has lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>*
Victim of Trafficking in persons	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Hmong and Highland Laotians	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ received SSI or had application pending on August 22, 1996; ■ lawfully resided in the United States on August 22, 1996, and is disabled; or ■ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work and has lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>*

*In this context "qualified immigrant" means (1) lawful permanent resident, (2) parolee for at least one year, (3) conditional entrant, or (4) certain abused noncitizens and their children and parents.

**CASH AND FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY CHART
BY IMMIGRATION STATUS (continued)**

Immigrant Status	Food Stamps/SNAP	EAEDC Cash Assistance	Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Battered noncitizens, and their children and parents (including Violence Against Women Act self-petitioners, family petitioners, and lawful permanent residents who have been abused)	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ has lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>;[*] ▪ a child under age 18; ▪ receiving a disability-based benefit; ▪ lawfully resided in the United States and was 65 on August 22, 1996; or ▪ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work 	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ received SSI or had application pending on August 22, 1996; ▪ lawfully resided in the United States on August 22, 1996, and is disabled; or ▪ a lawful permanent resident credited with forty quarters of work and has lived in the United States as "qualified immigrant" for <u>five years</u>[*]
Lawfully residing Veteran , active-duty service member, spouse, and dependent children	Eligible if a qualified immigrant [*]	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible if a "qualified immigrant" [*]
Immigrant permanently residing in U.S. under color of law (pending application, TPS, DED, vol departure, etc)	No (except certain battered immigrants, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Veterans in lawful status)	Yes	No	No (unless receiving SSI or application pending on August 22, 1996)
Non-immigrant (tourist, student)	No	No	No	No
Undocumented	No	No	No	No

^{*}In this context "qualified immigrant" means (1) lawful permanent resident, (2) parolee for at least one year, (3) conditional entrant, or (4) certain abused noncitizens and their children and parents.

Under federal law, all non-citizens regardless of immigration status are eligible for the following:

- School lunch and breakfast
- WIC (supplemental food program for women, infants, and children)
- Head Start
- Non-means-tested benefits delivered at the community level, such as food pantries, homeless shelters, child protection services, and domestic violence, mental health, and substance abuse treatment

Special Notes

PRUCOL immigrants (permanently residing in the United States under color of law) are individuals who generally have work authorization or some other proof of status or contact with Immigration officials. In addition to the immigrant groups listed above, individuals are PRUCOL if they are known to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and they are not about to be deported. Examples of immigrants who are considered PRUCOL include but are not limited to:

- Persons granted temporary parole
- Persons whose deportation has been stayed, withheld, or suspended
- Persons granted deferred action status or under order of supervision or temporary protected status
- Applicants for permanent residency
- Applicants for asylum from any country