



# DID YOU KNOW?

You can use your SNAP benefits to purchase  
hunting and fishing gear.



# Guidelines for individuals interested in using SNAP to purchase hunting and fishing equipment:

## Who is eligible in the state of Alaska?

Only individuals meeting both of the following criteria can use their SNAP benefits to purchase equipment:

- You have to live in a community which access to retail stores is difficult
- You rely substantially on hunting and fishing for subsistence

## What areas are considered ineligible to use their benefits to purchase equipment?

The following areas are **not** considered to have limited access to retail stores. However, this list isn't all of the communities considered to have limited access and each request will be determined on a case-by-case basis to determine eligibility

Central	Coastal	Northern	Southeast
Anchorage	Anchor Point	Big Delta	Craig
Big Lake	Cordova	College	Haines
Chugiak	Homer	Dot Lake	Hollis
Eagle River	Glennallen	Fairbanks	Hoonah
Girdwood	Kenai	Nenana	Juneau
Houston	Kodiak	Northway	Kake
Mt. View	Moose Pass	North Pole	Ketchikan
Palmer	Ninilchik	Tanacross	Klawock
Spennard	Seldovia	Tok	Metlakatla
Sutton	Seward		Petersburg
Talkeetna	Soldotna		Sitka
Wasilla	Valdez		Skagway
Willow			Douglas
			Auke Bay

## What is a subsistence hunting and fishing statement?

The subsistence hunting and fishing statement is a statement allowing fishing and hunting equipment to be purchased with your SNAP benefits. This statement must be drafted by the head of household, spouse or authorized representative and must state they intend to gather a majority portion of the household's food by means of subsistence hunting and fishing. Also, the statement must include that the individuals do not intend to use the items purchased for commercial purposes. The statement will be needed when you are enrolling to apply for benefits.

## How will I know if I can use my SNAP benefits for hunting and fishing gear?

Once an application is reviewed if a household is eligible they will be issued a specialized SNAP Identification Card to use when purchasing items. You are only allowed to purchase hunting and fishing equipment with the specially designated ID card.

## What items can I purchase?

Equipment that is okay to purchase are items necessary for attaining food including but not limited to: nets, lines, hooks, fishing rods, harpoons, knives, ice augers and other equipment. Equipment such as items used for purpose of transportation, clothing, shelter, firearms, ammunition and explosives are not eligible for purchase.

**For further information contact your public assistance office.** For a list of the public assistance offices visit: <https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/contacts.aspx> or call 800-478-7778 or email [hss.dpa.offices@alaska.gov](mailto:hss.dpa.offices@alaska.gov).

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