

SNAP Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Broad Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE)?

You may be familiar with policy which defines traditional categorical eligibility households. These were households where all members receive (or are authorized to receive) TANF, SSI, or a combination of TANF and SSI.

BBCE allows us to expand that definition to most Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households by providing them with a notice advising the household that they are authorized to receive services through Alaska 2-1-1. The households remain BBCE throughout the certification period. Most of our SNAP households are BBCE.

Which households are eligible for BBCE?

Most SNAP households that apply or recertify on or after July 1, 2025 will be eligible for BBCE. If you are already receiving SNAP benefits, there is no need to reapply. Your SNAP case will be automatically reviewed for BBCE when you submit your recertification form.

Which households are not eligible for BBCE?

A SNAP household is not BBCE and must meet federal SNAP eligibility requirements if:

- The head of household does not comply with work requirements,
- The household was disqualified due to receipt of substantial lottery or gambling winnings,
- A household member is disqualified for any of the following reasons:
 - Intentional program violation
 - Fleeing felon or probation/parole violation
 - Convicted of receiving duplicate benefits
 - Convicted of trading benefits for weapons, ammunition, explosives, or drugs
 - Convicted of buying or selling benefits of \$500 or more
 - Convicted after 08/22/96 of a federal or state felony for possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs

Are SNAP recipients still required to notify DPA of changes?

Yes. SNAP recipients must report when their household's total gross income goes over the income limit for your household size and if someone in your household has lottery or gambling winnings of \$4,500 or more in a single game. If the household contains a member subject to the ABAWD time limits, they must also report when their work hours fall below 20 hours per week.

Households should report changes to the Division of Public Assistance (DPA) within 10 days from when they know about them. Changes can be reported in person or by mail to any [DPA office](#), by email to hss.dpa.offices@alaska.gov, by fax to 888-269-6520 or 907-269-6520 in Anchorage, or by calling the Virtual Contact Center at 800-478-7778.

A SNAP case would normally close if a household reports that their total gross income went over the income limit for their household size. BBCE allows us to keep the case open for the duration of the certification period. Only the amount of the benefit would be reduced or eliminated.