

## WHERE DO I APPLY FOR FOOD STAMP BENEFITS?

Applying for Food Stamps is easier than ever. You can file your application in person, by mail, fax, online or your authorized representative can file it for you at any Food Stamp Center or at a participating community based organization. If you are working, are elderly or disabled, have problems with child care, or difficulty traveling to our office, you can ask to have your eligibility interview over the phone.

## WHAT IF I DO NOT SPEAK ENGLISH?

We will arrange for free interpretation at the Food Stamp Center.

## WHAT TYPE OF DOCUMENTATION WILL I NEED TO SHOW TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?

While no documentation is necessary to apply, you will eventually be asked to verify the information you give us. Below is a list of documents. If you provide them right away we can determine your eligibility faster.

### - **Proof of Identity:**

Photo ID, driver's license, passport, naturalization certificate, hospital/doctor's records, or adoption papers.

### - **Proof of where you live:**

Statement from landlord/primary tenant, current rent receipt or lease, or mortgage records.

### - **Proof of Income (if any):**

Current pay stubs, pay envelopes, business records, tax records, or current income tax return, etc.

### - **Proof of Citizenship or Current Alien Status:**

Birth certificate, U.S. passport, USCIS documentation, military service records, etc. Other documents may also be acceptable.

## IF I DON'T HAVE ALL THE DOCUMENTS NOW, CAN I STILL APPLY FOR FOOD STAMPS?

Yes, you can still apply. When possible, Food Stamp center staff will help you to get the required documents.



These Food Stamp centers are open from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday (except legal holidays).

<b>Manhattan</b>		
East End - F02 2322 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10035	Washington Heights - F13 4055 Tenth Avenue, Lower Level New York, NY 10034	St. Nicholas - F14 132 West 125th Street, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10027
<b>Brooklyn</b>		
Williamsburg - F21 30 Thornton Street, 4th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11206	Coney Island - F22 2865 West 8th Street, 1st Floor Brooklyn, NY 11224	North Brooklyn - F26 500 Dekalb Avenue, 5th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11205
East New York - F28 404 Pine Street, 1st Floor Brooklyn, NY 11208		
<b>Bronx</b>		
Melrose - F40 260 East 161st Street, 4th Floor Bronx, NY 10451	Concourse - F45 1375 Jerome Avenue, 2nd Floor Bronx, NY 10452	Crotona - F46 1910 Monterey Avenue, 5th Floor Bronx, NY 10457
<b>Queens</b>		
Queens - F53 32-20 Northern Boulevard, 2nd Floor LIC, NY 11101	Rockaway - F79 219 Beach 59th Street, 1st Floor Rockaway, NY 11692	

The following centers are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM and Saturdays, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (except legal holidays):

Waverly - F19 12 West 14th Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10011
Fort Greene - F20 275 Bergen Street, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11217
Fordham - F44 2551 Bainbridge Avenue, 2nd Floor, Bronx, NY 10458
Jamaica - F54 165-08 88th Avenue, 3rd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11432
Richmond - F99 201 Bay Street, 1st Floor, Staten Island, NY 10301

**You may also mail your application to the Division of Food Stamp Services, Mail Application & Referral Unit (MARU), P.O. Box 24510, Brooklyn, NY 11201**

311 or  
TTY (311) at: (212) 504-4115

HRA's Website  
[www.nyc.gov/hra](http://www.nyc.gov/hra)

Access NYC  
[www.nyc.gov/accessnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/accessnyc)



Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor

Human Resources  
Administration  
Department of  
Social Services

Robert Doar  
Commissioner

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# What You Need to Know About Food Stamps

Food Stamp Program  
Family Independence Administration



## APPLYING IS EASIER THAN EVER

The Food Stamp Program provides food support to low-income New Yorkers including working families, the elderly and the disabled to increase their ability to purchase food. You can spend your food stamps by using a debit card where you do your shopping. There's no need to carry separate food coupons.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FOOD STAMP BENEFITS?

Many people are eligible and don't realize it. You can be employed, own your own home and car, have money saved and still be eligible for Food Stamps. Many immigrants who were once ineligible can now receive food stamps. Each application is evaluated on an individual basis and qualifying is based on income.

### HOW CAN I GET A FOOD STAMP APPLICATION?

- Call 311 and we will send you an application and information on where you may bring, mail or fax it.
- Pick one up from any Food Stamp center.
- Download an application from HRA's website at [NYC.gov/HRA/FoodStamps](http://NYC.gov/HRA/FoodStamps)
- For an application as well as eligibility pre-screening, go to [NYC.gov/ACCESSNYC](http://NYC.gov/ACCESSNYC)

### IF I AM RECEIVING SSI/DISABILITY BENEFITS, DO I STILL QUALIFY FOR FOOD STAMPS? WILL MY SSI/DISABILITY PAYMENTS BE REDUCED?

Yes, you can still qualify for Food Stamp benefits even if you receive SSI/disability benefits, as long as you meet eligibility rules. Receipt of Food Stamps does not reduce your SSI/Disability payments.

### HOW SOON AFTER I APPLY WILL I RECEIVE FOOD STAMPS?

If you are eligible for Food Stamps, you will receive them within 30 days. In some cases, emergency benefits can be issued sooner.



### HOW MUCH INCOME CAN I HAVE AND STILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD STAMPS?

The Food Stamp Income Guidelines and maximum monthly allotment as of October 2009 are as follows:

FOOD STAMP INCOME GUIDELINES			
Family Size	Gross Monthly Income Limit*	Net Monthly Income Limit**	Maximum Monthly Allotment
1	\$1,174	\$903	\$200
2	\$1,579	\$1,215	\$367
3	\$1,984	\$1,526	\$526
4	\$2,389	\$1,838	\$668
5	\$2,794	\$2,150	\$793
6	\$3,200	\$2,461	\$952
7	\$3,605	\$2,773	\$1,052
8	\$4,010	\$3,085	\$1,202
Each Additional Member	+\$406	+\$312	+\$150

\*Households that incur dependent care expenses are subject to higher gross income limits.

\*\*If your household has a person who is 60 or older or disabled, you only need to meet the net income limit. If everyone in your household receives SSI, TANF, or SNA you do not need to meet any income limit. Your total income, before taxes or any other subtractions, is called **gross income**.

However, certain subtractions to your gross income, called deductions, are allowed. These can be for things like housing, child support payments, monthly medical expenses over \$35 for elderly or disabled people, or child-care. The amount left over after deductions is called **net income**.

The amount of Food Stamp benefits you receive depends on your household size, expenses, and your income.