Colleges and universities are increasingly aware of the rising rates of food insecurity among students. Today’s college students seek upward mobility through higher education. Many are financially independent, have dependents, and 31% of students face food insecurity.

Eligibility requirements for college students are burdensome. Even if students would otherwise qualify for SNAP benefits based on all other criteria, those attending class more than half time are ineligible to receive SNAP unless they meet a complicated set of exemptions.

Simplify SNAP access for low-income college students. Updating the exemptions and streamlining the process would help today’s students complete their credentials. An educated workforce is a competitive workforce. Congress needs to ensure that the most in-need students can access SNAP.

Help today’s students finish higher ed.

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If students who would otherwise meet the income requirements attend college half-time or more, they are ineligible for SNAP unless they meet one of these exemptions.

**DO YOU MEET INCOME, SAVINGS, IMMIGRATION, AND OTHER BASIC SNAP REQUIREMENTS?**

- **NO**
  - You are NOT eligible for SNAP.
  - **NO**
    - Are you a college student?
    - **NO**
      - You may be eligible for SNAP.
      - ABAWD* work requirements may apply to you.
    - **YES**
      - Are you enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education?
      - **NO**
      - **YES**
        - You may be eligible for SNAP.
        - ABAWD* work requirements do NOT apply to you.
  - **YES**
    - You are NOT eligible for SNAP.
    - **NO**
      - Are you a college student?
      - **YES**
        - You are NOT NOT eligible for SNAP.
      - **NO**
        - You may be eligible for SNAP.

*Work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents

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**DO YOU MEET ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING?**

- Under age 18 or over 49
- Have a disability
- Have a dependent younger than age 6
- Receive TANF
- Be responsible for the care of a dependent household member ages 6 to 11 where there is not adequate child care
- Be a single parent, enrolled in an IHE fulltime, and responsible for the care of a dependent child under 12
- Work 20+ hours per week
- Participate in work study
- Participate in an on-the-job training program
- Enrolled in other specified employment or training programs (see 7 CFR 273.5 for more detail)