




**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
*DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES*  
**UNIFORM POLICY MANUAL**

  
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Claudette J. Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner

July 6, 2010  
Effective Date

POLICY TRANSMITTAL NO.: UP-10-11

SUBJECT: Expansion of Categorical Eligibility for SNAP

Current Policy:

Categorical eligibility means the household is automatically eligible for SNAP by virtue of being eligible for another means-tested cash assistance program. Currently households in which all members receive cash assistance under the Temporary Family Assistance, State Supplement, Supplemental Security Income, State Administered General Assistance or Refugee Assistance programs are categorically eligible for SNAP.

Revised Policy:

The proposed regulation expands categorical eligibility to include recipients who receive the TANF-funded "Help for People In Need" information and referral service.

The income limit for the "Help for People In Need" service is 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. There is no net income test and there is no asset test. Since under the proposed regulation all households who are eligible for "Help for People In Need" are automatically eligible for SNAP, this proposal in effect increases the gross income limit for SNAP eligibility to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level, eliminates a net income test and eliminates an asset test. All SNAP households who are categorically eligible would receive at least the minimum benefit.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPDATING THE UPM:

Remove and Recycle

2545/2545.05  
2545.05 p.2/p.3  
2545.10

Insert

2545/2545.05  
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2545.10

DISPOSTION: This Policy Transmittal may be recycled once the UPM has been updated.

DISTRIBUTION: UPM List

RESPONSIBLE UNITS: Adult Services phone # (860) 424-5250.

RC# 09-07

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**Date:** 7-6-2010

**Transmittal:** UP-10-11

**2545**

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**Section:**

**Categorical Eligibility Requirements**

**Type:**

**POLICY**

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**Chapter:**

**Categorically Eligible Assistance Units**

**Program:**

**SNAP**

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**Subject:**

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2545 | Categorical eligibility in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is mandated for assistance units whose members are recipients of certain cash benefits.

| This chapter sets forth the criteria for determining categorical eligibility in SNAP. Rules related to application and redetermination processing for categorically eligible SNAP units are found in Section 1500. Rules related to benefit calculation of these assistance units are found in Section 6000.

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**Type:**

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**Chapter:**

**Categorically Eligible Assistance Units**

**Program:**

**SNAP**

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**Subject:**

**Which Assistance Units are Categorically Eligible**

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2545.05 A. Categorically Eligible Unit

An assistance unit is considered categorically eligible for the SNAP program if:

1. all members of the assistance unit receive or are authorized to receive benefits under one or more of the following cash assistance programs:
  - a. TFA, including diversion assistance;
  - b. AABD;
  - c. SSI (except if the individual does not meet the SNAP technical requirement of citizenship status);
  - d. SAGA individual or family assistance;
  - e. Refugee Assistance; or
2. at least one member of the assistance unit receives or is authorized to receive TANF-funded services under the Help for People in Need Program.
3. the assistance unit meets the criteria in section 2545.05 A.1, but payment of benefits or services is not being made because:
  - a. The cash benefits or TANF-funded services are being recouped;
  - b. The cash benefits amount to less than ten (\$10.00) dollars;
  - c. The cash benefit or TANF-funded service is temporarily suspended due to income received in a prior budget month, under retrospective budgeting; and

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Categorically Eligible Assistance Units

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**Subject:**  
Which Assistance Units are Categorically Eligible

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2545.05 A. Categorically Eligible Unit (continued)

- 4. none of the assistance unit's members have been disqualified, as follows:
  - a. the assistance unit has not been disqualified from SNAP because of failure to comply with any of the following requirements:
    - (1) work registration, participation, or job search;
    - (2) voluntary quit; or
  - b. an individual in the household has not been disqualified from SNAP for:
    - (1) committing an intentional program violation; or
    - (2) failure to comply with the requirements of work registration, participation or job search.

B. Authorized to Receive a Benefit

- 1. To be considered authorized to receive a benefit, the client must:
  - a. be determined eligible for the benefit; and
  - b. must receive notification of the eligibility determination.
- 2. The client's household is categorically eligible if it meets the conditions of subdivisions B. 1.a. and b. of this section, even if the benefits are not used by the household.

C. Categorical Eligibility Assumed Under Certain Conditions

Categorical eligibility of an assistance unit meeting the conditions of subsection A. of this section is assumed at the time of the SNAP recertification in the absence of a timely cash assistance redetermination.

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2545.05 D. Presence of Other Individuals

1. The institutionalization of a household member does not preclude the members of the assistance unit from being categorically eligible.
2. The presence in the household of the following individuals does not preclude the assistance unit from being considered categorically eligible, even if the individual is the recipient of the benefit or service that confers categorical eligibility:
  - a. ineligible non-citizen (unless the non-citizen is an otherwise mandatory assistance unit member who qualifies for SSI but does not meet the SNAP technical eligibility requirement for citizenship status);
  - b. ineligible student;
  - c. ineligible able bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD). (Cross Reference: 3512).

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**Program:**

**SNAP**

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**Subject:**

**Certain Requirements Presumed Met**

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| 2545.10 For the purposes of SNAP eligibility, a categorically eligible assistance unit is considered to have met the following requirements:

1. asset limits;
2. gross and net income limits,
3. residency requirements; and
4. information and documentation concerning:
  - a. social security numbers of the unit's members; and
  - b. sponsored non-citizens.