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Ohio

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Understanding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Agenda

- What is SNAP
- History
- Program Basics
- EBT
- Q&A



Purpose of SNAP

Mission: To reduce hunger and improve nutrition by helping low-income individuals and families buy the food they need for good health.

Reach: SNAP serves over 42 million Americans each month.

History of SNAP



1961: Pilot Food Stamp Program under President Kennedy

1977: Food Stamp Act, eliminated the purchase requirement.

Today: SNAP is a cornerstone of America's food security safety net, the largest Federal Nutrition Assistance Program.

1939–1943: First Food Stamp Program launched during the Great Depression.

1964: The Food Stamp Act signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson as part of the War on Poverty.

2008: Renamed to SNAP to reflect its nutrition assistance role.

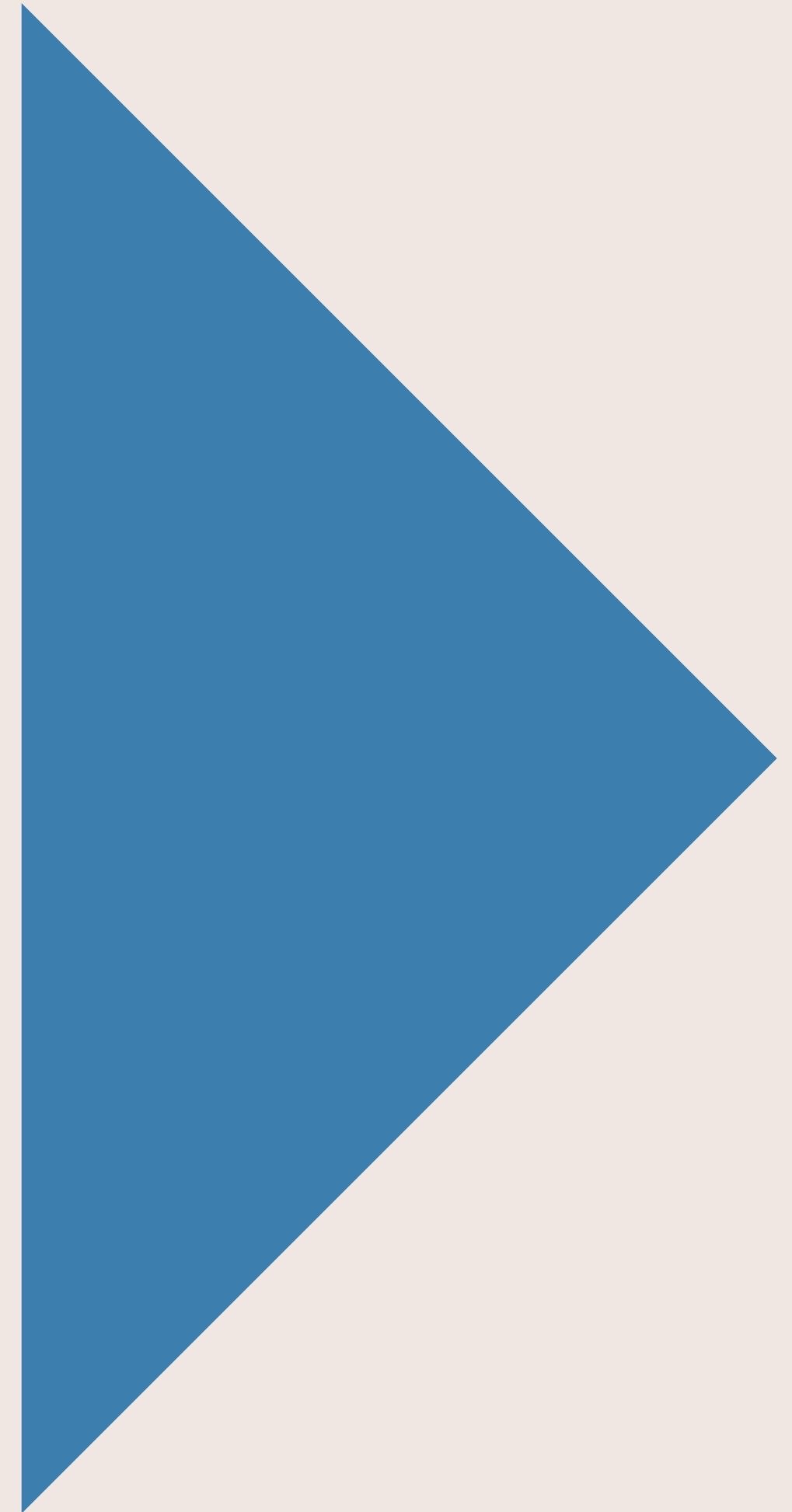
What is SNAP

Administered at federal level by USDA Food and Nutrition Service

States follow broad federal rules, set State options and make eligibility determinations

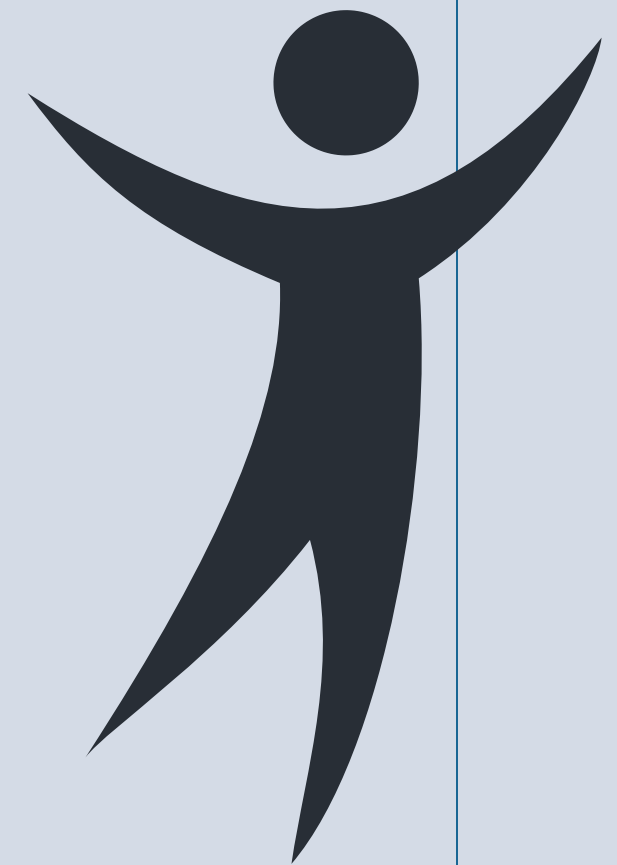
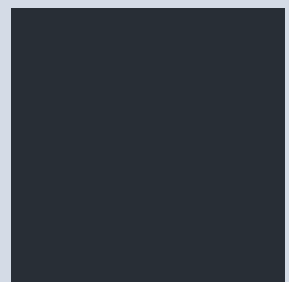
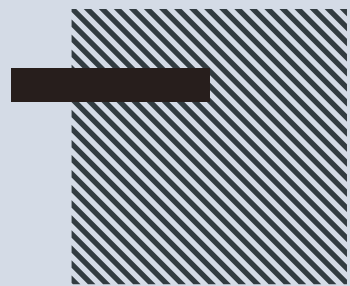
SNAP is an Entitlement Program

SNAP can be used at any approved store (over 250,000 nationwide)



Who Qualifies for SNAP

- Income: Gross and net income limits based on federal poverty guidelines.
- Resources: Limits on countable assets (e.g., bank accounts), though many households are exempt.
- Citizenship/Immigration: U.S. citizens and certain qualified non-citizens.
- Work Requirements: Able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) must meet work criteria.



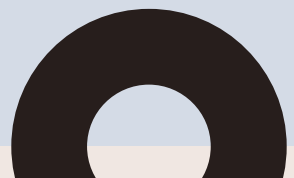


Who Qualifies for SNAP

— Eligibility Determinations:

- Financial and Non-Financial Criteria
- Deductions--
 - Standard Deduction
 - Medication Deductions for Elderly/Disabled
 - Housing Deductions
 -

 Subject to Verification Requirements



What Can SNAP Buy

Eligible Food Items:

Fruits, vegetables

Meat, poultry, fish

Dairy products

Bread and cereals

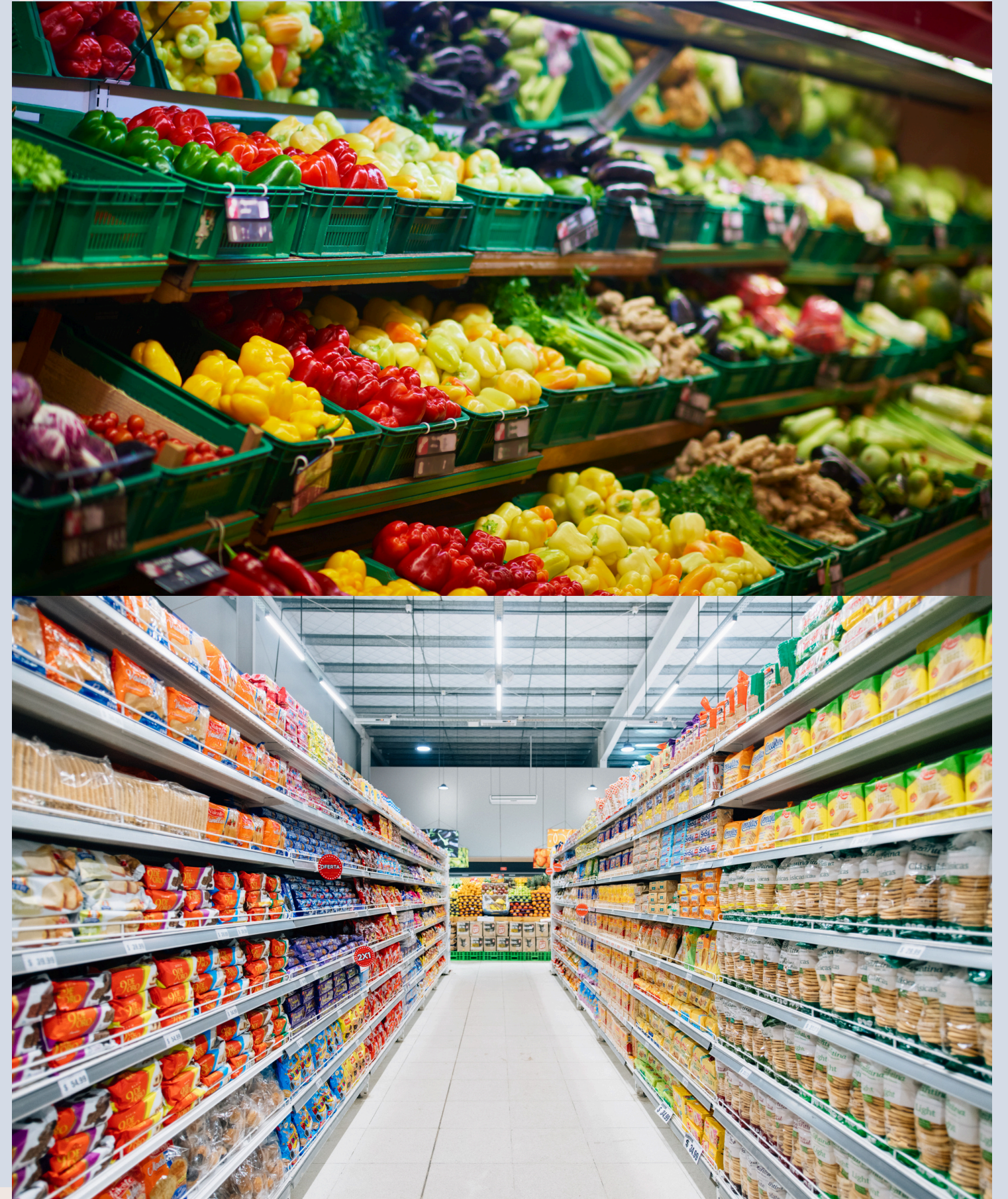
Seeds and plants to grow food

✗ Not Allowed:

Alcohol, tobacco

Hot/prepared foods (with exceptions)

Non-food items (cleaning supplies, pet food, vitamins)



How SNAP Allotments Are Determined

1. Based on the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP)

- USDA's TFP represents a low-cost, nutritionally adequate diet.
- Each October, SNAP allotments are updated based on the latest TFP cost.
- For a 4-person household, the maximum SNAP allotment \approx cost of the TFP.

2. Scaled by Household Size

- Smaller/larger households receive more or less than the 4-person maximum.
- USDA uses specific formulas to adjust allotments by household size.

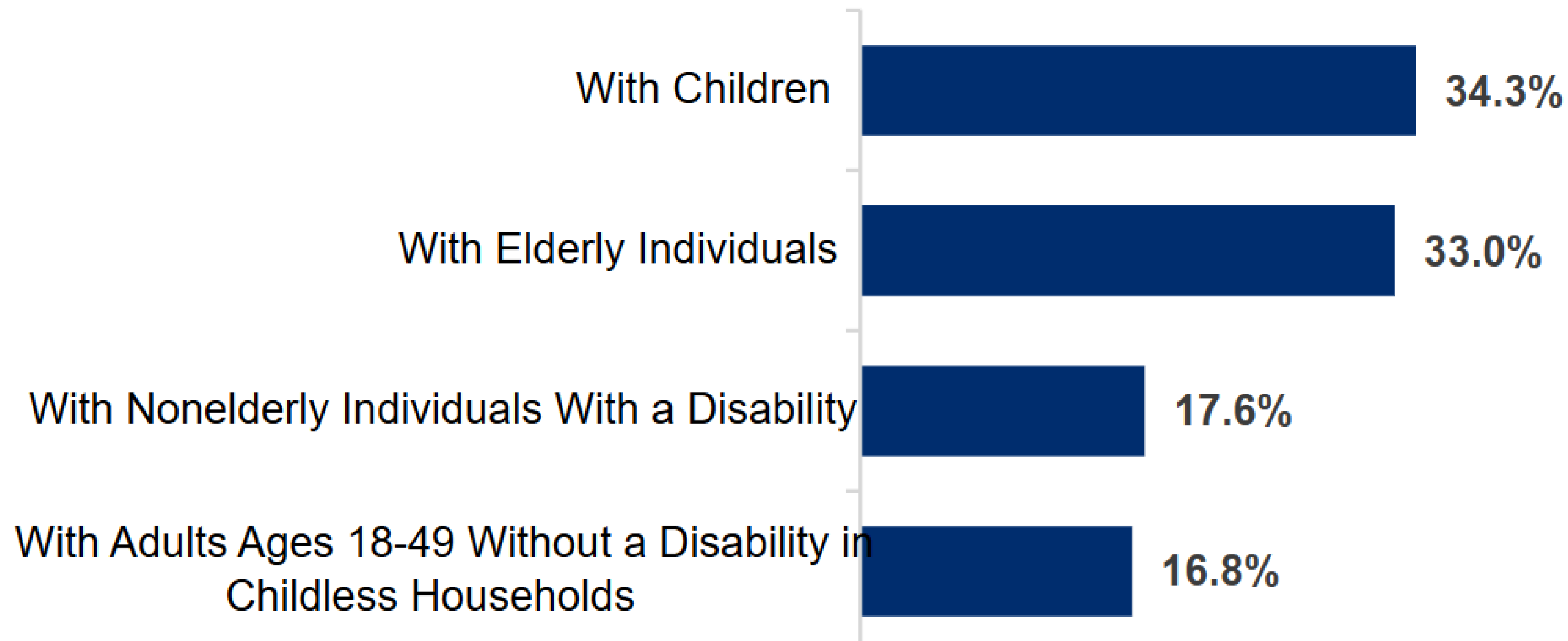
3. Adjusted for Income

- Most households don't get the maximum benefit.
- Formula: Maximum Allotment – 30% of Net Income = SNAP Benefit.
- Only zero-income households receive the full TFP amount.

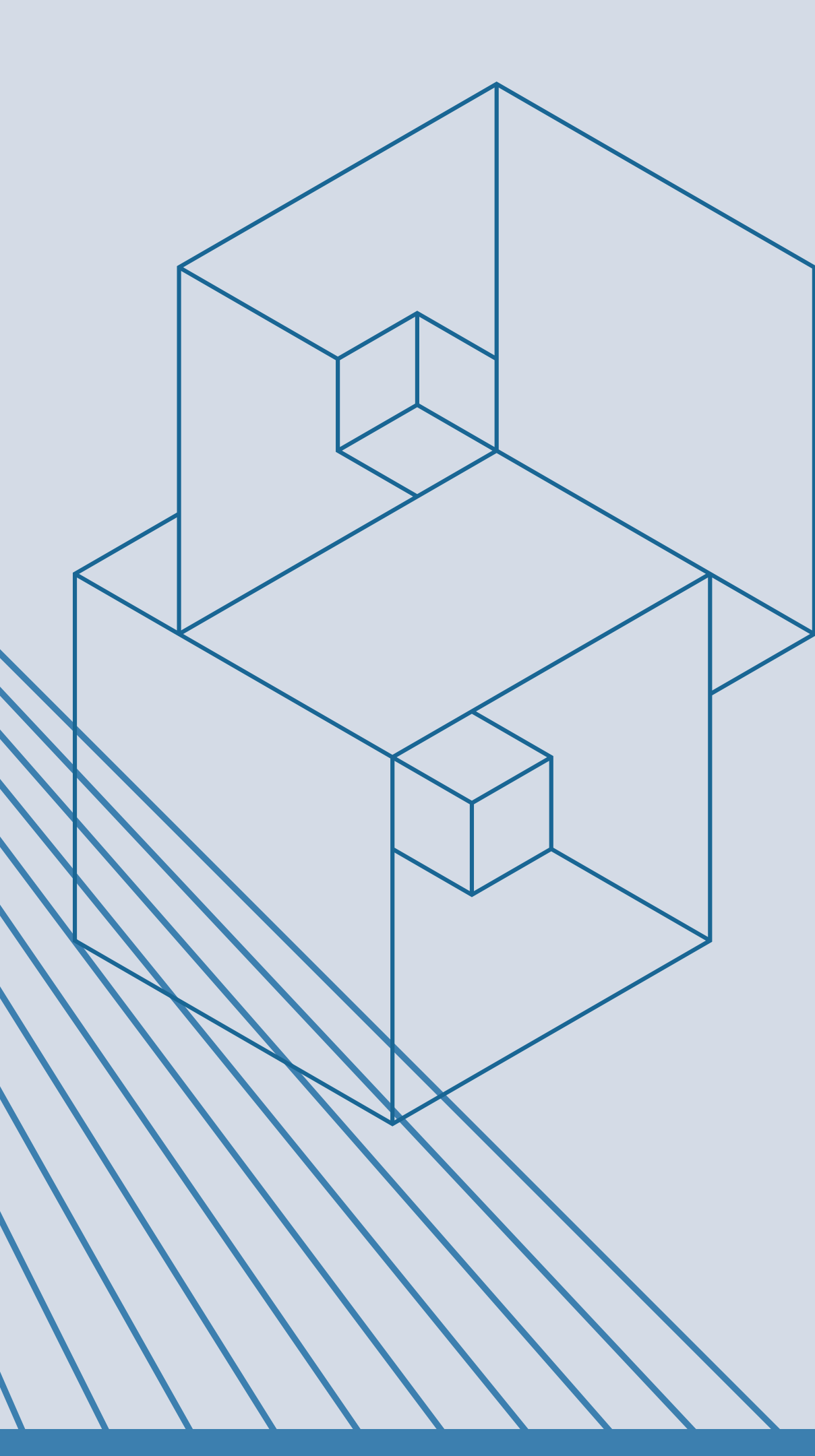
**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MAXIMUM MONTHLY ALLOTMENTS
OCTOBER 1, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Household Size	Maximum Allotment
1	\$292
2	\$536
3	\$768
4	\$975
5	\$1,158
6	\$1,390
7	\$1,536
8	\$1,756

Households Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits by Subgroup



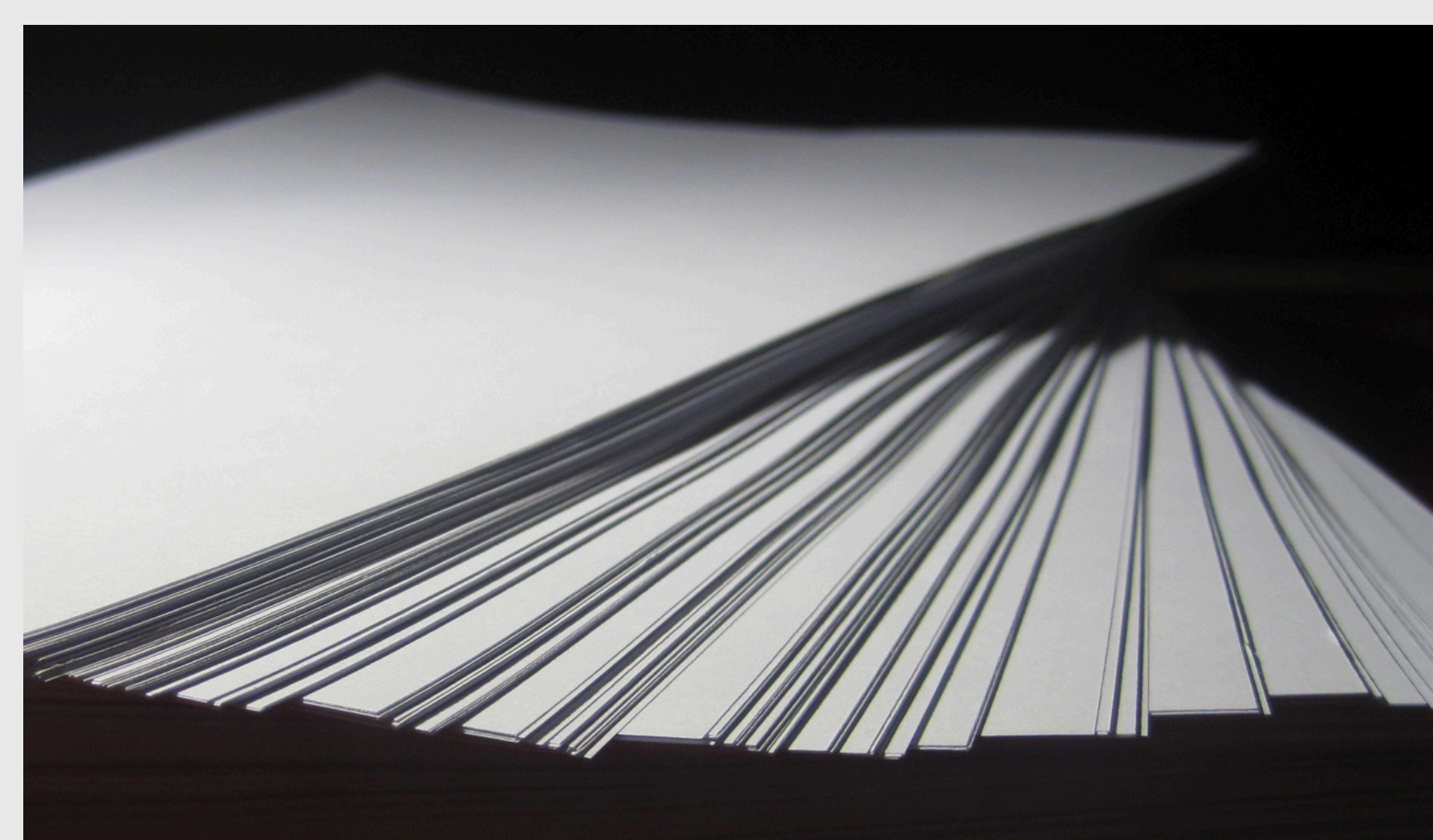
- In FY 2023, four in five (79%) SNAP households included either a child, an elderly individual, or a nonelderly individual with a disability. These households contained 88% of all SNAP participants and received 83% of all SNAP benefits. See figure below.
- About 39% of SNAP participants were children, 20% were elderly, and 10% were nonelderly individuals with a disability.



Program Characteristics: SNAP by the Numbers (Ohio)

Demographics:

- Over 1.36 million Ohioans receive SNAP (as of 2024).¹
- More than 650,000 households participate.¹
- Retailers: Over 9,500 stores in Ohio accept SNAP.²
- ~70% of SNAP participants in Ohio are families with children.³
- ~1 in 3 are seniors or individuals with disabilities.³
- Many SNAP households are working but earn low wages.³



APPLICATION FOR FOOD STAMPS

Personal Information		(First)	(Middle Initial)	Home Telephone
Last	(Last Name)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
Mailing Address				
Address				
Services needed				



EBT



REDESIGNING

Word cloud containing terms: FUTURE, DEFINITION, MANAGERS, DECISION, INFORMATION, STATISTICS, DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, QUALITATIVE, DATA, GOODS, BUSINESS, PLANNING, STATIST, EFFECTIVE, MARKETING, MANAGEMENT, MODELING, SERVICES, FACTORY, RISK, REDESIGN, INPUT, BUSINESS, STRATEGY, MAINTENANCE, FACTORY, CUSTOMER, SERVICES, EFFICIENT, PLANNING, ANALYSIS, CONTR, DEVELOPMENT, DATA, FRAUD, QUALITATIVE, FUTURE.



The Impact of EBT

Problems with Paper Food Stamps (Pre-EBT):

- Vulnerable to theft, loss, and counterfeiting
- Stigmatizing for participants at checkout
- Administrative burden for states and retailers



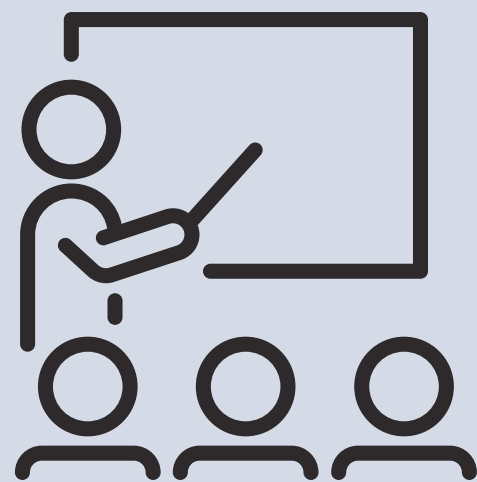
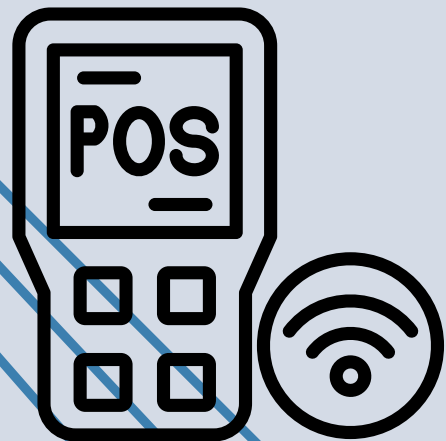
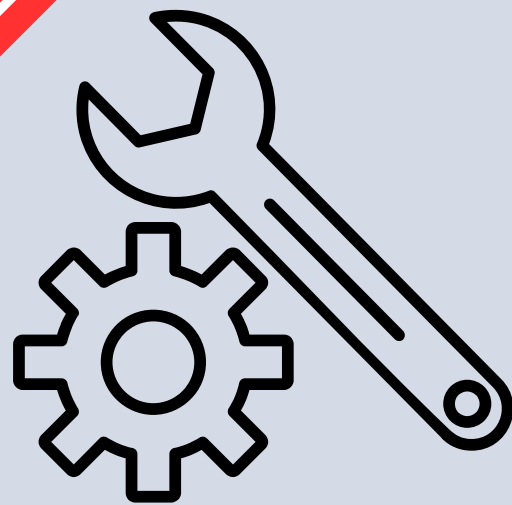
Goals of EBT Implementation:

- Modernize benefit delivery
- Improve program integrity
- Increase efficiency and accountability
- Enhance participant dignit



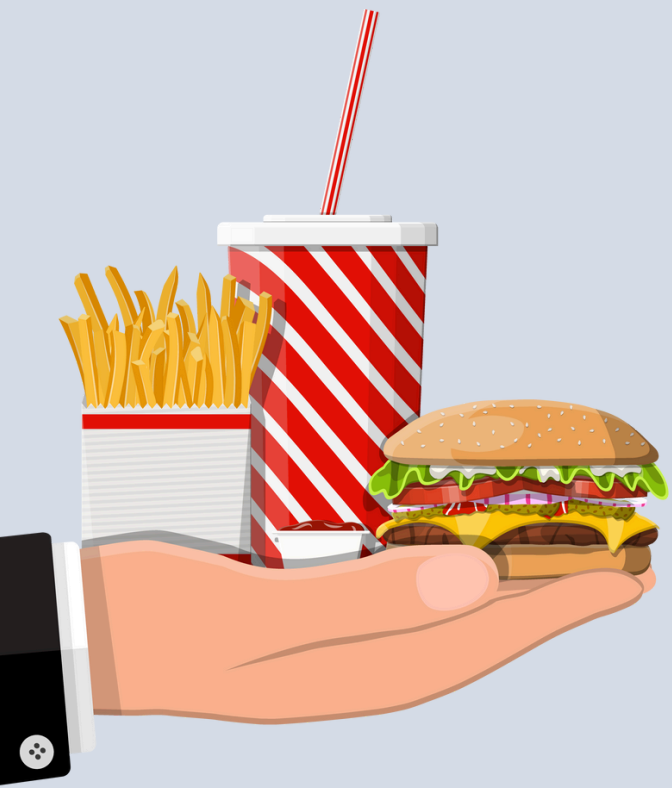


EBT Challenges



- Cost neutrality, for retailers and states
- Interoperability
- Technology and connectivity

Restrictions Contemplated: Yes



- Administrative Complexity and Cost
- Lack of Consensus on "Healthy" Foods
- Equity Concerns
- SNAP is designed to supplement food purchasing.
- Research and Evaluation Gaps at the Time

Questions?



Thank you!
Lizbeth Silbermann