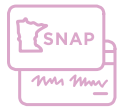


The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly “food stamps,” provides federal funding to help individuals and families purchase groceries. It is the nation’s most effective anti-hunger program.



435,000+

PEOPLE IN MN RELY ON SNAP



65%

OF SNAP PARTICIPANTS ARE IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN



33%

OF SNAP PARTICIPANTS ARE IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH SENIORS OR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

This bill (SF849/HF45) would restore funding for the state’s SNAP Outreach Program in the next biennium, helping to avoid a funding cliff at a time when more Minnesotans than ever are experiencing food insecurity. This program was created by the legislature in 2023 to support the work of organizations across the state helping enroll eligible individuals in SNAP.

This legislation also brings federal dollars back to Minnesota through a 50% match for SNAP outreach activities. This USDA program has been in existence since the mid-2000s and provides a 50% reimbursement to organizations participating in the SNAP Outreach Program with no limit to how much money a state can draw down. Investing \$1 million in the next biennium, then, would be matched by \$500,000 in federal funds—money we are otherwise leaving on the table.

CHALLENGES TO ACCESSING SNAP

Many eligible individuals face barriers to applying for SNAP, including:

- **The complex application process**
- **Limited outreach in rural areas**
- **Language barriers**

Minnesota’s **legislature funded a state SNAP Outreach Program** during the 2023-2024 session.

- **\$1 million** per year was appropriated for outreach activities in FY24-25.
- Funding drops to **\$500,000** in FY26, threatening the program’s impact and leaving federal dollars on the table.

WHY SUPPORT SNAP OUTREACH FUNDING?

- **SNAP helps combat food insecurity—** one in five Minnesota households are food insecure. For every meal a food bank provides, SNAP provides nine.
- **Restoring funding** will bring in **\$500,000 in federal matching funds**, maximizing our resources to prevent a funding cliff and not leave money on the table.
- **Continuing support** helps more Minnesotans access the benefits they need to stay fed and healthy.