

How to apply for FAP/SNAP

There are different ways to apply for FAP:

- ◆ **Online**— You can submit an application at: www.michigan.gov/mibridges

*At this time the online application is only available in English and Spanish

- ◆ **In person**— You can go to your local DHS and fill out the application, if you need assistance they should provide it for you
- ◆ **By mail**— You can call your local DHS and request an application to be sent to you

Community agencies can also provide the application and help you fill it out

*Once you have completed the application you need to mail it to your local DHS office

What documents do I need to apply

- ◆ Michigan Picture ID. If you are only applying for your children you can provide any type of ID that you have available
- ◆ Valid Social Security Card for eligible applicants
- ◆ Proof of income for the last 30 days
- ◆ Proof of rent or mortgage obligation
- ◆ Proof of property taxes, home owners insurance or condominium fees
- ◆ Proof of utility bills you are paying i.e., gas, electricity, water, phone etc

*The case worker may request additional documents



If you need to know where your nearest DHS office is located or if you need more information about the Food Assistance Program please call:

**Food and Nutrition
Help Line
1-800-481-4989**

Se Habla Español

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SNAP

Food Assistance Program

FAP

**What Immigrants need to
know about SNAP/FAP**



Dispelling misconceptions about SNAP/FAP and Immigrants

You may have been told you are not eligible to receive Food Assistance because you are an immigrant but that might not be correct.

This pamphlet is intended to clarify some of the most common misconceptions in regards to the Food Assistance Program and immigrants.

It also gives information about how to apply and what documents you need to provide to DHS when you submit an application.

If after reading this pamphlet you have questions, please feel free to call the Food and Nutrition Help Line at:

1(800) 481-4989



Do I have to be a legal resident to receive FAP benefits?

If you are undocumented, you do **NOT** qualify for FAP, but other members of your household may qualify if they are citizens, green card holders for more than 5 years or hold another eligible immigration status. Children do not have to meet the 5 year residence requirement.

If I apply for FAP, will that affect my chances to obtain a Green Card or become a U.S. Citizen in the future?

Receiving FAP does not prevent anyone from getting legal immigration status in the future.

Will DHS report me to Immigration if I apply for FAP?

If you are an undocumented immigrant you do **NOT** have to show immigration documents to DHS if you are not applying for FAP for yourself. On the application you have to list everyone in the household, but only mark the box for those who are applying for benefits. **DHS can only report to Immigration** if they have seen a paper showing a decision issued by immigration stating that the person is here illegally such as an order of deportation.

“My English is not good, so I can’t apply for FAP.”

DHS must provide an interpreter, but you can also take your own translator. The application is available in different languages.

Will I have to pay back the government the money that I have received in FAP benefits or report it on my taxes?

You do not have to pay back the money given to you in FAP benefits nor report it on your taxes.

If I own a property, a car or have money in the bank, do I still qualify for FAP?

Assets are not counted in the FAP budget as long as they are not producing a monthly income.

May more than one family living in the same house qualify for FAP?

Families that share the same house can receive FAP if they buy, fix and eat their food separately from the other family.

“My sponsor says that I can’t apply for FAP because they would have to pay back the government.”

If you are a sponsored immigrant who is eligible to receive FAP benefits, it is because you have been a lawful permanent resident for 5 years or more, or you have become a U.S. Citizen. If that’s the case, your sponsor’s legal obligations might have come to an end.

Your sponsor does **NOT** have the legal right to stop you or your family from receiving FAP if you qualify for it.

You can always choose not to apply for FAP benefits for yourself, but only for other eligible members of your household.