

Are you age 60 or Older and Need Help Paying for Food?

An exciting **New Project** now lets you apply for Food Assistance over the telephone, from the comfort of your own home, if you reside in the following Counties: Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee & Polk.

Who is offering this assistance and why?

SNAP (*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as Food Stamps in Florida*) is offering a new telephone-application option, to make it easier for elders in your community to apply for SNAP benefits. SNAP is a nutrition-assistance program and not a welfare program. In addition to stretching your food budget, your SNAP food purchases help the local economy by increasing community spending.

Am I eligible for this special SNAP Project?

You are eligible if you:

- ✚ Are 60 years of age or older.
- ✚ Reside in one of the Florida counties listed above.
- ✚ Have a net monthly income of less than \$903, or a combined income with your spouse of less than \$1,215.
- ✚ Are a U.S. citizen or qualified non-citizen.
- ✚ Have countable household assets of less than \$3,000 (not including your home, vehicle or life insurance policies).

How do I apply for SNAP benefits by phone?

Please gather all of the following forms and information before calling, so that the process is as quick and easy as possible.

- Income statements: Social Security payments, Veteran's Administration benefits, pensions, income from mortgages, contributions and earnings.
- Information about your assets, such as real estate (other than the home you live in), bank accounts, certificates of deposit (CDs), money market funds, stocks, bonds, trusts and the cash value of life insurance policies if the face value of the policies owned total more than \$2,500.
- Proof that you are a Florida resident (for example, your Driver's License).
- Social Security number

Once you have gathered all of the above forms and information, call **1-800-963-5337** and ask to speak to the SNAP Operator.

If you don't want to call, you can also apply for SNAP benefits by obtaining a paper application by calling the Department of Children and Families (DCF) at 1-866-762-2237 or visiting a DCF ACCESS Florida Customer Service Center. A list of Customer Service Centers can be found online at <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/> or you can apply online at <http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/>.

Applying for SNAP is a snap!

West Central Florida
Area Agency on Aging, Inc.



Your Aging Resource Center

