

FOOD STAMPS AND IMMIGRANTS

- ✓ You can apply for food stamp benefits for your children or other household members who meet the citizenship requirement, **even if you yourself do not.**
- ✓ You do **not** have to give a Social Security number or immigrant status information for household members who are **not** seeking benefits.
- ✓ Food stamp offices will **not** contact INS with information from your food stamp application.

INS has issued several **very clear** documents about food stamps recently. It is **not** considered a “public charge” for you or other household members to receive non-cash benefits. These include food stamps, WIC, school meals and the Oregon Health Plan. Public charge may be an issue only if you are getting cash welfare benefits like TANF.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

For more information please call
Oregon SafeNet,
a health and human services hotline.

1-800-SAFENET (723-3638)

(503) 988-5858 (Portland metro area)

**If you need this brochure in an alternate format,
call 1-800-723-3638.**

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Food Stamps

and

NOY

Food Stamps

You'd be surprised who qualifies.



WHAT ARE FOOD STAMPS?

The Food Stamp Program helps low-income households eat well by providing extra dollars to buy food. In Oregon, people get monthly food stamp benefits to buy food on an *Oregon Trail* card.



It works like a bank debit card in the machines at your grocery store checkout. Your *Oregon Trail* food stamp card will come with instructions for using it.

FACTS ABOUT FOOD STAMPS

- ✓ You do not need to be 'on welfare' to get food stamps.
- ✓ You do not have to pay for food stamps.
- ✓ If your family uses WIC or school meal programs, you may also get food stamps.
- ✓ Food stamps are available to all low-income households, including senior citizens and childless adults, as well as people with children.

YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET FOOD STAMPS EVEN IF...

- ✓ You own your home. No lien will be placed on it.
- ✓ You are working full-time or part-time.
- ✓ You get unemployment insurance.
- ✓ You have a good car and money in the bank.
- ✓ You are going to school.
- ✓ You are a couple.
- ✓ You are living with others.

You may be able to get food stamps if your income does not exceed:

Household Size	Monthly Income
1	\$1,366
2	\$1,841
3	\$2,316
4	\$2,790
5	\$3,265
6	\$3,740
7	\$4,215
8	\$4,690

Over 8, add \$475 for each additional person
*Above information is updated every April.

IF YOU MEET THESE INCOME GUIDELINES, YOU MAY STILL QUALIFY EVEN IF YOU HAVE RESOURCES LIKE A HOME, CAR OR BANK ACCOUNTS.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FOOD STAMPS?

You can pick up and turn in an application at your local food stamp office. (See the information phone number on the back page.) When you come into the office for your interview, you will need to bring:

- ✓ Photo identification (such as a driver's license).
- ✓ Social Security numbers for everyone for whom you are applying.
- ✓ Proof of your rent and utilities costs (such as bills or receipts).
- ✓ Proof of your income (such as check stubs).
- ✓ **For non-citizens, proof of lawful immigrant status** for household members seeking benefits.

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