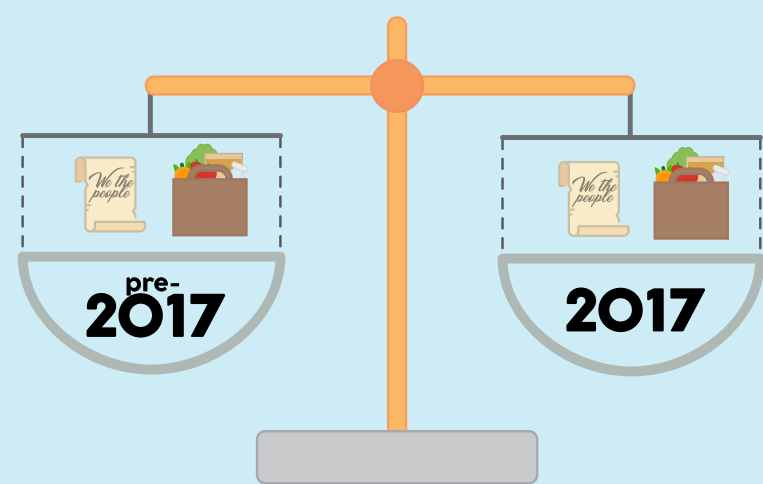


# Immigrants and Government Food Assistance

August 2017



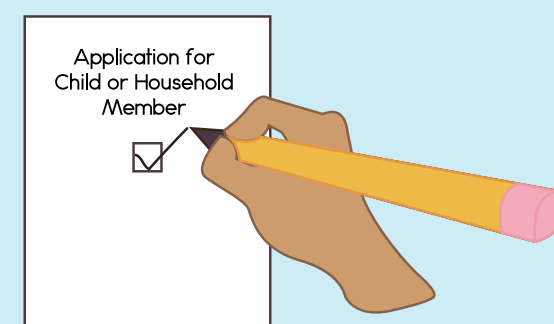
The **law has not changed**. Even if you or your family members are not U.S. citizens, you may still qualify for government food programs.



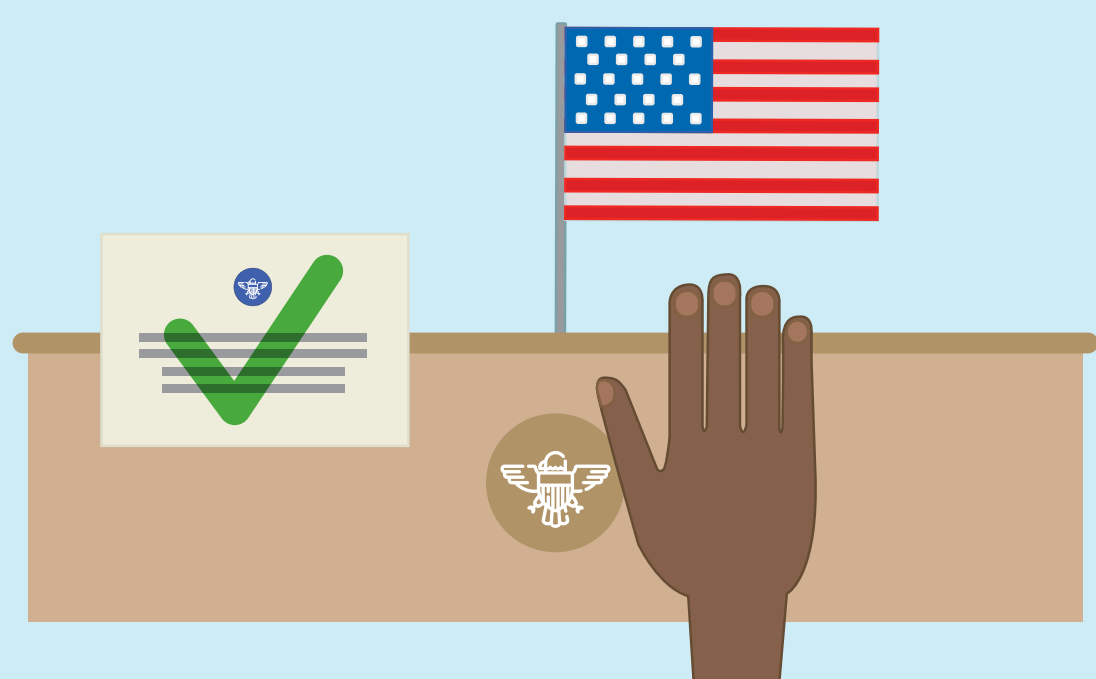
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or “SNAP” is the largest government food program. Non-citizens who may be eligible for SNAP include **veterans, children, refugees, disabled people, lawful permanent residents with a work history**, and more. Even if you do not qualify for SNAP, you may still qualify for the Minnesota Food Assistance Program.



Your **immigration status does NOT matter** when you ask for assistance from a food shelf.



Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for SNAP. But **your immigration status does not matter if you are applying for SNAP for your children or another household member**. The person helping you fill out your SNAP application should be able to explain how to apply for someone else. If not, you can call Legal Aid to ask how.



Receiving free or reduced cost school meals or assistance from programs like SNAP or WIC **will NOT hurt your chances of becoming a U.S. citizen**.



Your **personal information is protected** when you apply for food assistance. Laws prevent county workers, school officials, or any other government employee from reporting an applicant’s status to the authorities.

If you think a government employee isn't following these rules or if you have questions about government food assistance, you can contact:

**Legal Aid**  
(800) 292-4150  
[www.lawhelpmn.org](http://www.lawhelpmn.org)

**Minnesota ACLU**  
(651) 645-4097  
[www.aclu-mn.org](http://www.aclu-mn.org)



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