
Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Provides Guidance Regarding SNAP and SNA in Response to COVID-19

Description of Program and Relief

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) announced that there may be special waivers or emergency alternatives for applications by individuals and families who have lost income due to COVID-19 to various programs administered by OTDA:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues electronic benefits that can be used like cash to purchase food. SNAP helps low-income working people, senior citizens, the disabled and others feed their families. Eligibility and benefit levels are based on household size, income and other factors.
- Temporary Assistance (TA) is temporary help for needy men, women and children.
- New York State Family Assistance (FA) provides cash assistance to needy families that include a minor child living with a parent (including families where both parents are in the household) or a caretaker relative.
- Safety Net Assistance (SNA) provides cash assistance to eligible needy individuals and families who are not eligible for FA).

Government or Lead Agency

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Dates Available

March 12, 2020, continuing indefinitely

Eligibility Requirements/Restrictions

Determinations are made on a case-by-case basis. The OTDA website includes charts providing helpful guidelines for understanding a household's potential eligibility for benefits based on gross income, available here: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/#overview>.

Contact for More Information

OTDA Hotline: 1-800-342-3009.

Applicants are encourage to connect with their local department of social services for more information.

List of Additional Information

The OTDA's announcement is available here: <http://otda.ny.gov/policy/gis/2020/20DC013.pdf>

The Application

The application form is available here: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/applications/2921.pdf>