

FOOD STAMPS

Eligibility for food stamps is based on household size and household income.

DSS must consider the income of everyone that lives and buys and prepares food with you.

If a person living with you buys his/her own groceries and takes meals separate from others in the house, that person will not be considered part of your household unless that person is required to be in your Food stamp household. That person's income will not be counted when determining the amount of food stamps that you may receive.

DSS may deduct some essential living expenses from your income.

The following may be deducted from your income to calculate food stamps:

1. Rent or Mortgage

DSS will deduct your rent or mortgage payments. Even if you live in subsidized housing, your rent will be deducted.

2. Utility Payment

DSS will deduct your bill for utilities.

3. Medical Expenses

If you are disabled and if you pay more than \$35.00 per month for medical expenses, DSS may deduct this amount from your income.

4. Child Support Payment

If you pay child support and other child care expenses, DSS may deduct these expenses from your income.

5. Child Care Expenses

If you pay for child care and are currently looking for work or attending school, DSS may deduct these expenses from your income.

When you apply for food stamps take the following documents:

1. Pay stubs

2. Receipts of rent or mortgage payments
3. Utility bills
4. Medical expenses, doctor, hospital, medicine (over the counter and prescription medicines), transportation costs to and from the doctor, etc.
5. Child support payments
6. Receipts for daycare/child care expenses
7. Record of payments from SSI, social security and/or from Veterans Affairs

EXPEDITED FOOD STAMPS

Expedited Food Stamps are food stamps you can get quickly. You are eligible for expedited food stamps if you are in one if the following categories:

1. Your household has less than \$150 in monthly gross income, and less than \$100 in liquid resources (cash on hand, checking or savings account, or other).
2. You are a migrant or seasonal farm worker without money and your liquid resources are less than \$100.
3. Together your monthly income and liquid resources are less than the total of your monthly rent or mortgage and heating costs and utilities.

If you are eligible for expedited food stamps you can get your food stamps in seven (7) days or less.

To apply for Food Stamps, go to Social Services at 301 Billingsley Road or 3205 Freedom Drive.

If you are denied food stamps you have the right to appeal. Call Legal Services of Southern Piedmont at 704-376-1600 for help with your appeal.