

# **Buying Food with SNAP**

## **Eligible Food Items**

### **Any food for the household, such as:**

- Fruits and vegetables;
- Meat, poultry, and fish;
- Dairy products;
- Breads and cereals;
- Other foods such as snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages; and
- Seeds and plants, which produce food for the household to eat.

### **Households CANNOT use SNAP benefits to buy:**

- Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes, or tobacco
- Vitamins, medicines, and supplements. If an item has a Supplement Facts label, it is considered a supplement and is not eligible for SNAP purchase.
- Live animals (except shellfish, fish removed from water, and animals slaughtered prior to pick-up from the store).
- Foods that are hot at the point of sale
- Any nonfood items such as:
  - Pet foods
  - Cleaning supplies, paper products, and other household supplies.
  - Hygiene items, cosmetics

## **Retailer Eligibility Resources**

- [What are Staple Foods?](#)
- [Prepared and Heated Foods](#)
- [Accessory Foods List](#)

## **AskUSDA**

If you have a question about the eligibility of product for purchase using SNAP benefits, read answers to popular questions in the [AskUSDA](#) system.



### **Contact Us**

- Email your question to: [RPMDHQ-WEB@fns.usda.gov](mailto:RPMDHQ-WEB@fns.usda.gov).

### **For More Information**

- [All About Virginia SNAP Benefits](#)

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