

UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN USDA’S SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
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The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and during qualifying natural disasters, the Disaster SNAP Program (D-SNAP). D-SNAP is a *completely* different program from the regular SNAP Program. The chart below compares the two programs. Additional information about both programs is available at www.fns.usda.gov/snap.

Eligibility Element	SNAP	D-SNAP
Disaster Status	N/A	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to home or self-employment property • Disaster related expenses • Food loss • Income source disrupted • Inaccessible liquid resources
Identity of Applicant	Verified	Verified
Residency	Residence in State or Project Area is verified	Residence in the disaster area at the time of the disaster is verified; States have the option to include households working in the disaster area at the time of the disaster
Household Composition	Individuals who purchase and prepare meals together	Includes individuals who purchase and prepare meals together at the time of the disaster
Benefit Amount	Varies depending on household size and financial circumstances	Maximum allotment for household size
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot exceed \$2,250 if there is NOT an elderly household member • Cannot exceed \$3,250 if there is an elderly household member 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No separate resource test • Only liquid resources are counted • Verified where possible
Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only net (take-home) income expected to be received during the benefit period counted • Verified where possible

Eligibility Element	SNAP	D-SNAP
Expenses	Deductions calculated for eligible households include: standard, earned income, excess shelter, dependent care, and medical (elderly/disabled members only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum standard and shelter deductions used • Unreimbursed, out of pocket, disaster-related expenses allowed
Intentional Program Violations	Penalties are 12 months, 24 months, and permanent disqualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification status from regular program does NOT disqualify an applicant from the D-SNAP