

## Common Eligibility Requirements

The individual is considered a resident of an institution when the institution provides the majority of their meals, which is defined as over 50% of three meals daily, as part of the institution's normal services, and the institution has not been authorized to accept SNAP benefits.

**NOTE:** A school dormitory is considered an institution. Therefore, any student who resides in a school dormitory and receives the majority of his meals from the institution's meal plan is ineligible to participate in SNAP. This includes, but is not limited to, colleges and military and boarding schools, even when the student returns home for weekends. See the exemptions below for those who do not receive the majority of their meals from the institution.

The following groups are exempt from this policy:

- Narcotic addicts or alcoholics who reside at a facility or treatment center under the supervision of a drug or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program. See Chapter 14 for specific instructions for these groups.
- Individuals who reside in a Group Living Facility (GLF). See Chapters 9 and 14 for the definition of a GLF and for instructions regarding which residents of a GLF qualify.
- Residents of shelters for battered **persons** and their children. The facility must be a public or private non-profit facility that exclusively serves battered **persons** and their children or, if the shelter also serves other groups of individuals, a portion of the facility must be set aside, on a long-term basis, to shelter battered **persons** and their children. In addition, the facility must be a residence, not simply a place to eat meals. See Chapters 9 and 14.
- Residents of institutions who do not receive their meals from the institution, but who purchase and prepare their own food, or participate in a delivered meals program or a communal dining program are eligible, if they meet all other eligibility requirements. This includes those students who reside in school dormitories with optional meal plans and do not receive the majority of their meals from the institution.
- Residents of federally-subsidized housing for the elderly, built under either Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 or Section 236 of the National Housing Act qualify, if otherwise eligible.
- Residents of public or private non-profit shelters for homeless persons qualify, if otherwise eligible. See Chapter 14.