

# DISASTER FOOD STAMPS: What Immigrant Families Should Know



The State of North Carolina has authorized disaster food stamps (D-SNAP) for families who have been affected by Hurricane Helene to receive money to purchase food.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- **You must be from one of the following counties:** *Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes or Yancey, or be a member of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians living in zip code 28719.*
- You must have **suffered some loss of food due to the disaster** (for example, food in the refrigerator was spoiled), **AND suffered some loss from the hurricane, including:**
  - Suffered damage or destruction of your home due to the hurricane,
  - Suffered loss of self-employment due to the hurricane,
  - Suffered lost income, including loss of a job in one of the impacted counties,
  - You cannot access your money, such as your bank account, or
  - Suffered other disaster-related expenses that will not be reimbursed by another source (such as FEMA) before October 24, 2024.
- **Immigrants are eligible regardless of status, or with no status at all:**
  - **Any immigrant may apply, including H-2A and H-2B visa holders, other temporary immigrants, or even undocumented immigrants with no status at all**
- The application may ask for a social security number, but you are **not required to fill it in**. If you do not have a SSN, simply leave the box blank. Never fill in false information on a benefit application.
- **Information on SNAP applications is confidential and is not shared with ICE/Immigration.**
- Applicants must verify their **identity**. According to the DSS rules, "this can be in the form of a picture ID or any other form of identification. This proof may include, but is not limited to, Social Security card, mail, or ...statement."
- Using D-SNAP or any disaster benefit has **no** impact on your ability to get a green card in the future.
- **Your income must be below certain limits.**
- **Different types of households can be eligible:**
  - This includes families who live together and prepare meals together.
  - It also includes unrelated adults who live together (such as farmworkers in a migrant camp). If you state that you will be preparing meals independently of your roommates or housemates, you can apply as an individual.
- **You are NOT eligible if you are already receiving food stamps.**

**\*\*\* YOU MUST APPLY FOR DISASTER FOOD STAMPS ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 24, 2024 \*\*\***

- **Apply by Phone:** Apply by calling the **D-SNAP call center at 1-844-453-1117**. The D-SNAP call center will be open weekdays beginning on October 18 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20 from 9:00 am to noon.
- **Apply In-Person:** Apply for D-SNAP in-person at any of locations listed at [ncdhhs.gov/dsnap](https://ncdhhs.gov/dsnap). The D-SNAP application sites will be open weekdays beginning on October 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20 from 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m.
- **Note:** Residents are encouraged to apply in their county of residence, but they can also apply in person at **any** of the locations listed at [ncdhhs.gov/dsnap](https://ncdhhs.gov/dsnap).
- You may also **pre-register online [here](#)** beginning on October 15, 2024, but it is not required.