

1-800-359-2163

# Understanding Changes to College Student SNAP Eligibility

## Current Policy

Student enrolled half-time or more is ineligible for food stamps unless the student is:

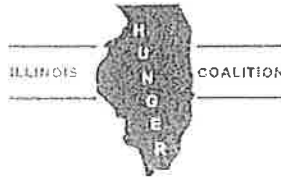
- Under 18 or over 50 years of age
- Disabled - documented and/or receiving SSI, SSD, or other disability compensation
- Working at least 20 hrs per week and otherwise qualifies for SNAP
- Responsible for a child under the age of 6
- Responsible for a child between the ages of 6-12 for whom adequate child care is not available to allow them to attend school and work 20 hours a week
- Receiving TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- Enrolled in a Job Training Program or SNAP Employment & Training Program

## Changes to Section 121.75

New rule for community college students:

- **Adds:** Enrolled in an employment and training program operated by a state or local government, such as those offered by community colleges under a career and technical education program as defined by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, or in courses of study for remedial education, basic adult education, literacy, or English as a second language.
- **Removes:** A college or university student enrolled in a special program, such as English as a second language or community education courses, is not enrolled in an institution of higher education.

Resource: <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/secondnotices/890121-1714898ro2.pdf>



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## What programs qualify under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006?

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As of January 1, 2018, low-income Illinois **community college** students enrolled in a Perkins-approved course of study will be eligible to apply for SNAP benefits, whether enrolled full or part-time. Perkins-approved areas of study include:

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
  - Architecture & Construction
- Art, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
  - Education & Training
  - Finance
- Government & Public Administration
  - Health Science
  - Hospitality & Tourism
  - Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
  - Manufacturing
  - Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Students will also need to bring a current copy of their transcript or class schedule to their SNAP appointment. Other forms of verification may be requested from the community college if the student does not have proof of their enrollment in a career and technical education program.