#### 2018 Nutrition Assistance Overview Nick Heckman, MPA



Healthy people. Healthy places.



# Nutrition Programs

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplement for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
- Others

Name of Program	How It Works	Who Can Apply
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Also known as SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps) Note: Program may be called something else in your state	Monthly benefits to purchase food at grocery stores, farmers' markets, and food retail outlets across the country that accept SNAP Benefits loaded onto an EBT card (much like a debit card) The average benefit is about \$31 for the week – or about \$1.47 per person, per meal	Gross income typically at 130% of the federal poverty level but can be higher in some states <sup>1</sup> Asset tests may apply in some states <sup>2</sup> Many low-income employed individuals
The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	Nutritionally tailored monthly food packages (worth approximately \$50/ month) that families redeem in grocery and food stores that accept WIC Breastfeeding support, nutrition services, screening, immunization, and health referrals	Low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, and infants and children up to age five deemed nutritionally at risk by a health care professional Income eligibility typically at or below 185% of the federal poverty level <sup>3</sup> Families on Medicaid
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	Up to two free meals and a snack to infants and young children at child care centers and homes; Head Start; and Early Head Start Updated nutrition standards in 2016 means healthier meals	Children attending eligible child care centers and homes; Head Start; and Early Head Start
National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program	Free, reduced-priced, or paid school meals in participating schools Updated meal patterns feature more whole grains, 0 grams of trans fat per portion, appropriate calories by age, more fruit, and reduction of sodium	Children of families at low or moderate income levels can qualify for free or reduced-price meals Free to all students at schools adopting community eligibility — which allows schools with high numbers of low-income children to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students without collecting school meal applications

Name of Program	How It Works	Who Can Apply
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program provides federal funding to elementary schools to serve fruits and vegetables as snacks to help young students improve their diets and establish healthy eating habits Limited federal funding is available in all states	Elementary schools with high numbers of low-income students
Afterschool Nutrition Programs (available through CACFP or the National School Lunch Program)	Free, healthy snacks and/or meals meeting federal nutrition standards in enrichment programs running afterschool, on weekends, or during school holidays	Children can access free meals at participating enrichment programs offered at community sites, including schools, park and recreation centers, libraries, faith-based organizations, or community centers
Summer Nutrition Programs	Up to two free meals at approved school and community sites during summer vacation Meals must meet approved federal nutrition standards	Children can access meals at participating community sites, which can include schools, park and recreation centers, libraries, faith- based organizations, or community centers No need to show identification
The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	Emergency food distributed to local partners that may include pantries, schools, faith- based groups, etc. Many food items are shelf-stable U.S. commodities, but many food banks commit to distributing more fresh produce	Access depends on site requirements; some sites require referrals

#### **SNAP** Facts

- Average household benefit: \$249/month
- Average recipient benefit: \$129/month or \$1.40/meal
- 80% of SNAP benefits are used within the first half of the month
- Research shows: SNAP decreases food insecurity, prevalence of obesity and diabetes, and increases overall health outcomes, school performance, etc
- Nearly 50% of SNAP households contain children



## SNAP Program and Eligibility Changes

- Work Requirements: Formalized under 1996 Welfare Reform
  - In order to receive SNAP (then Food Stamps) benefits, able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) aged 18-49 must seek employment or undertake job training (80 hours per month) – waiver requested in Wisconsin 2005-2014; waiver rescinded 2015
  - Failure to comply after 3 months means you are prohibited from accessing the program for 3 years waiver requested in Wisconsin 2005-2014; waiver rescinded 2015

## SNAP Program and Eligibility Changes

- Work Requirements, con't
  - Drug screening for ABAWD population: included in 2015-16 Wisconsin budget, to be implanted beginning 2019; Current extraordinary session Governor can no longer eliminate this program a
- Recent Wisconsin Proposals
  - Expand work requirement from 20 to 40 hours/month
  - Expand work from ABAWDs to also include adults WITH dependents
  - Measure "assets" when determining SNAP eligibility
  - Add photo of user to the SNAP EBT card

#### Figure 7 Percentage of population in SNAP and selected economic indicators, 1980-2016



SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Note: Gray vertical bars indicate recession. Recessions: January 1980 to July 1980, July 1981 to November 1982, July 1990 to March 1991, March 2001 to November 2001, December 2007 to June 2009. Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service; U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; and U.S. Department of Commerce,

#### Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds

- "Public charge" term used historically to determine if someone entering the country would be reliant upon state resources. Prior to 2018, this only included cash assistance (TANF) or long-term institutional care.
- 2016: rumored release of new rule or executive order altering this definition
- October 10, 2018: Department of Homeland Security released updated definition of public charge, now including
  - SNAP
  - Medicaid
  - Medicare Part D
  - Housing Assistance
- Current public comment period closes December 10. Submit at regulations.gov >Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds

# Local Supports

- Nutrition Incentives
  - Double Dollars
  - FVRx
- Local grantmaking
  - SEED
  - HRAP
- Emergency food safety net