



*Serving Children and Families*

The South Carolina Department of Social Services has a project called Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) to improve the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) process for elderly households. ESAP allows us to meet the goals of SNAP to provide food assistance to raise levels of nutrition among low-income individuals and to better serve the nutritional needs of elderly individuals. To receive SNAP benefits under ESAP, you complete a simple application form, do not have to be interviewed by an eligibility worker, provide limited verification of your circumstances, and complete a one page mail-in form yearly to continue SNAP benefits.

**You should be eligible to participate in ESAP:**

- If all of the members of your household (those people who live with you and purchase and prepare food together) are elderly (age 60 or older);
- If the members of your household have no earned income (salaries from work); and
- If no member of your household receives SNAP benefits under the South Carolina Combined Application Project (SCCAP).

**To receive SNAP benefits, you must:**

1. Review your Rights and Responsibilities.
2. Complete and sign the enclosed ESAP application, DSS Form 16176. Be sure to provide proof of any out of pocket medical expenses for which you want to receive a deduction.
3. Submit the DSS Form 16176:
  - a. In the enclosed self-addressed envelope provided for you; or
  - b. Mail it to ESAP, South Carolina Department of Social Services, P.O. Box 100229, Columbia, SC 29202; or
  - c. Fax it to 803-898-7141.

**If you have any questions concerning SNAP or this letter, please call the ESAP toll-free hotline at 1-888-898-0055.**

**IMPORTANT**

**You are not required to pay tax on food purchased with SNAP benefits.**