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## Office of Family Independence Eligibility Programs

- Food stamps, federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Energy assistance (LIHEAP)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

We are also contracted to provide eligibility determinations for:

- Medical Assistance (Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids, Planning for Healthy Babies) — Department of Community Health
- Child & Parent Services (child care) — Department of Early Care & Learning (DECAL)

## AT A GLANCE: Can states affect the eligibility rules?

<b>All SNAP programs</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>All TANF programs</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>LIHEAP &amp; CSBG</b>	<b>Must be done through DFCS with opportunity for public comment and federal approval.</b>
<b>Afterschool program</b>	<b>No</b>



## Food Stamp Program





# Food Stamp Program

## Average Monthly Number of Recipients

[Statewide, Fiscal Year 2017]

**1,658,391**

## Average Monthly SNAP Benefits Issued

[Fiscal Year 2017]

**\$213,668,022**

## Average SNAP Benefit Issued Per Household

**\$279 / mo.**

## Maximum Benefit for a Household of 1

**\$192 / mo.**

## Services provided

- Supplemental Food Assistance
- Nutrition Education

## Can state adjust eligibility rules?

No.

## Funding source

100% federal

## Program Legislative Authority

State Authority / Reference

O.C.G.A. Section 49-4-16(b)

Federal Authority / Reference

7 U.S.C. Section 2013



## Economic Impact of SNAP in Georgia

Moody's Analytics estimates that **\$1** in SNAP benefits generates **\$1.70** in economic activity.

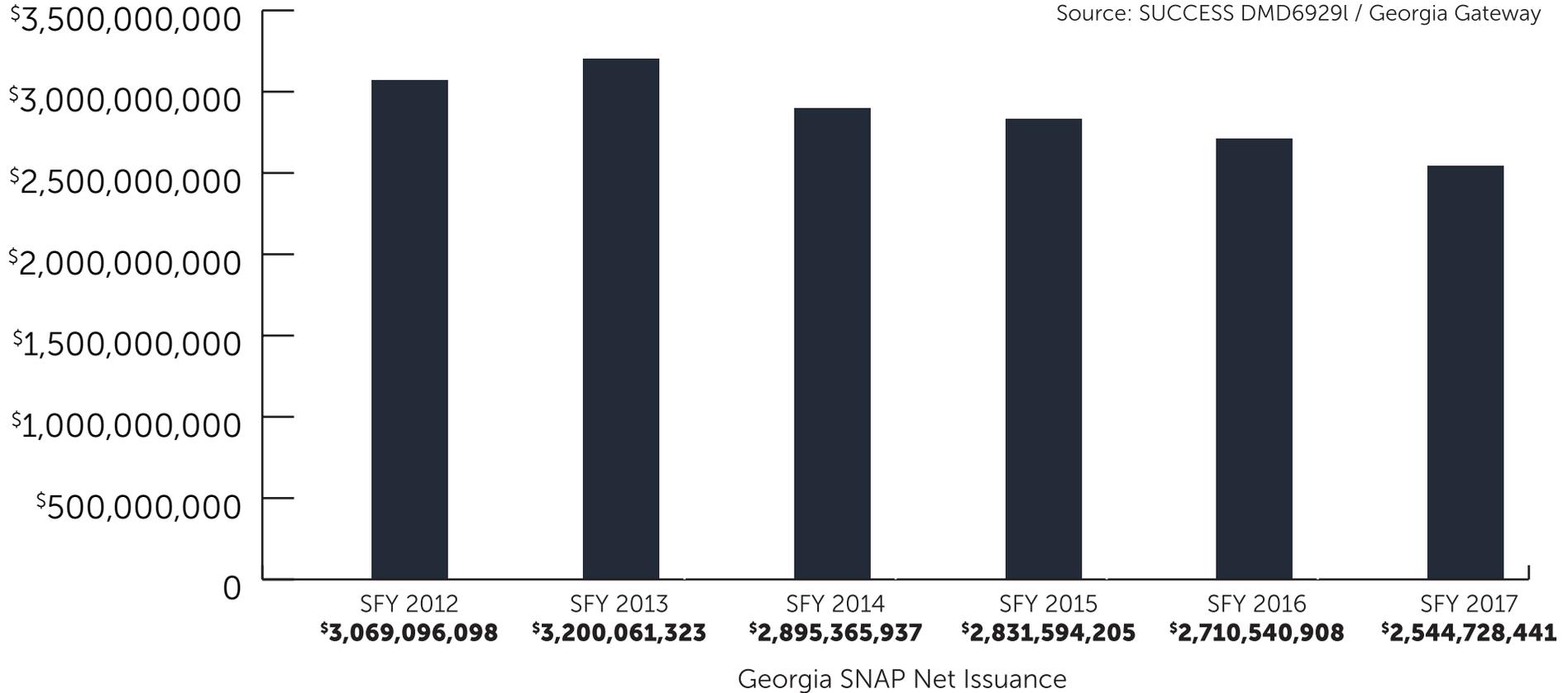
SNAP benefits pumped about **\$2.5 billion** into Georgia's economy in 2017, which equates **\$4.25 billion** in economic activity.





# How much money does SNAP bring to Georgia?

Source: SUCCESS DMD6929I / Georgia Gateway





## Who receives SNAP?

<p><b>GEORGIA</b></p>	<p>More than <b>70%</b> of SNAP participants are in families with children.</p>	<p>More than <b>27%</b> of all SNAP participants are in families with elderly or disabled household members.</p>	<p>More than <b>43%</b> of all SNAP participants are in working families.</p>
<p><b>NATIONWIDE</b></p>	<p><b>22%</b> of all SNAP participants work full-time, are caretakers or participate in a training program.</p>	<p>More than <b>75%</b> of households that include a person who is able to work had a job in the year before or after receiving SNAP.</p>	<p><b>14%</b> of SNAP participants are working less than 30 hours / week, are unemployed or are registered for work.</p>



## What are the income limits and maximum issuances for SNAP?



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For a household of one,  
the income limit is  
**\$1,307.**

The maximum allotment is  
**\$192.**



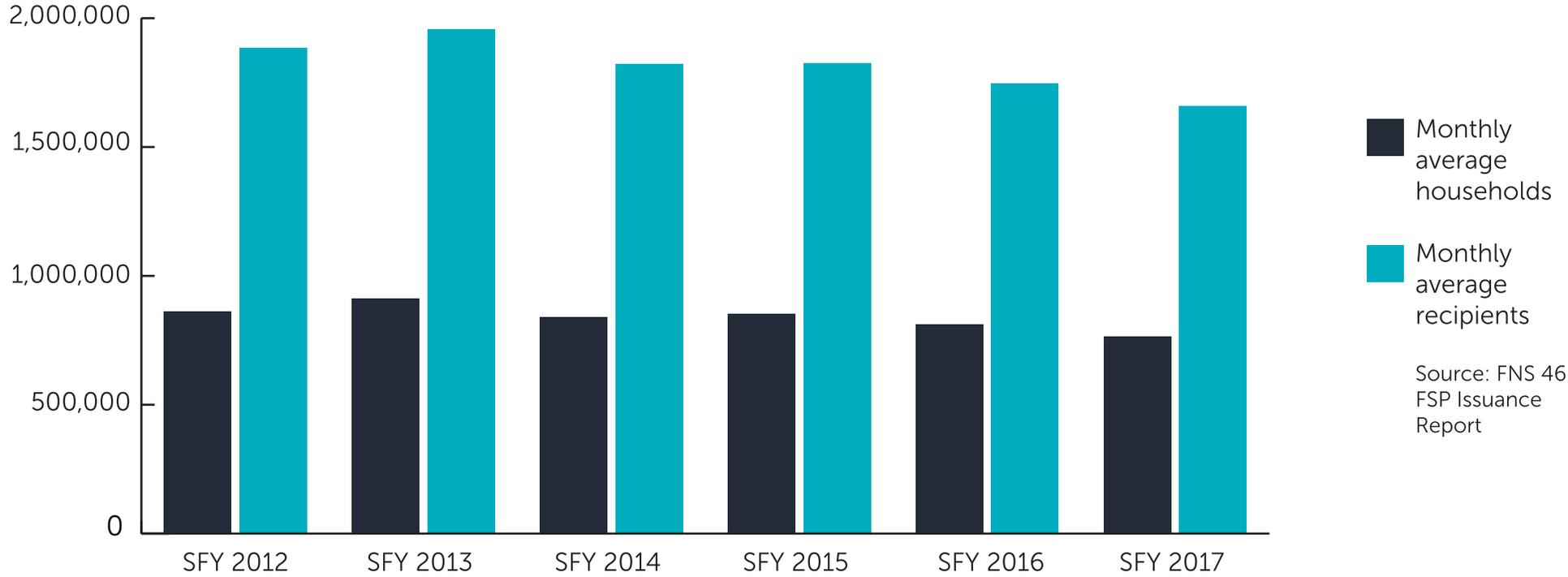
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For a household of four,  
the income limit is  
**\$2,665.**

The maximum allotment is  
**\$640.**



# How many Georgians receive SNAP?



Source: FNS 46  
FSP Issuance  
Report



## Senior SNAP

Senior SNAP is a simplified application project designed to make it easier for seniors to apply for and receive food stamp benefits.

Seniors who are eligible are not required to have an appointment or interview at application or review.



## Senior SNAP

Who qualifies?

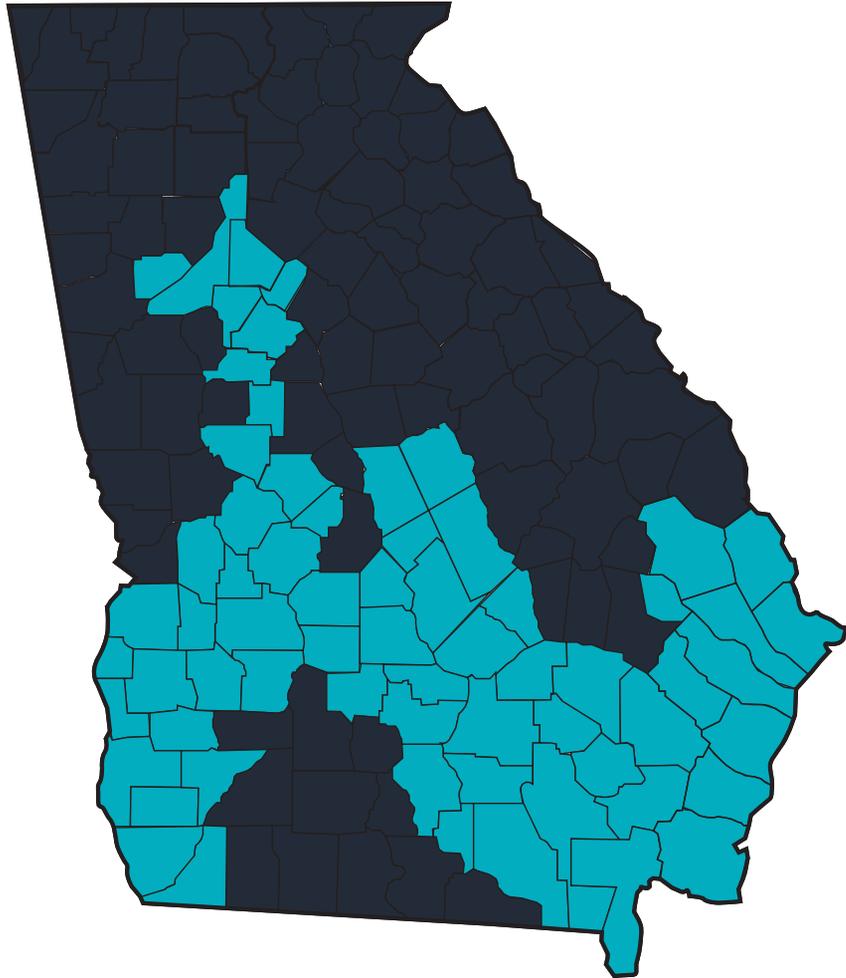
- All members of your household are 60 years of age or older and purchase and prepare their food together **AND**
- All household members are not working **AND**
- Your household is under the income limits to be eligible for SNAP participation **AND**
- Your household has a permanent fixed income such as social security, SSI, private, state or federal retirement, VA, railroad retirement.



## SNAP Works

SNAP Works serves **Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS)**, who are between the ages of 18-49, who are not working or in school and have no dependents.

SNAP eligibility for ABAWDS is limited to any 3 months in a 36-month period unless employed or in a qualified work/training activity. We are implementing a phased approach to rolling out the ABAWDS Time Limit criteria across the state. Currently 24 counties have ABAWD time limits, with 69 counties slated to be added in January 2018. Statewide implementation will occur by 2019.



## SNAP Works Time Limit Counties

SNAP Works FFY2018 Service Area  
Voluntary E&T Program Service Area  
ABAWD Time-Limited Counties  
[Effective January 1, 2018]

-  2018 Time-Limited 3/36 Counties
-  ABAWD Waiver Counties



## The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

TEFAP is a state administered federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.

This program operates within all 159 counties.

Federal funding (100%) of **\$21,625,945** in supplemental food was distributed statewide in SFY 2017.



## **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)**

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) is a federal program that targets low income seniors in Georgia, 60 years of age or older, to help supplement their diets by providing them with nutritious commodities and nutrition education free to customers.

In Georgia, two food banks have been selected to distribute these food commodities: The Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Second Harvest Food Bank of South Georgia. This program operates within 26 counties.

Federal funding (100%) of \$1,158,131 in supplemental food was distributed in SFY 2017.

## Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)





## TANF

Cash assistance with a work requirement

Time limited in Georgia to 48 months

Household must include a minor child (or pregnant woman)

Minor child must be deprived of one or both parents

Families must be residents of Georgia

Countable resources must be less than \$1,000



# TANF

## Number of Adult Recipients - June 2017

**3,243**

## Number of Child-Only Cases - June 2017

**10,664**

## Max Benefit Amount for Household of 2

**\$235**

## Other TANF Programs

Grandparents raising grandchildren  
Family Violence Emergency Assistance

## Services provided

- Cash Assistance
- Work Assistance

## Can state adjust eligibility rules?

Yes.

## Funding source

99.98% federal | .02% state

## Program Legislative Authority

State Authority / Reference  
O.C.G.A. Section 49-4-3(a)(4), 49-4-180 et seq  
Federal Authority / Reference  
42 U.S.C. Section 601 et seq. (Part A, Title IV of  
the federal Social Security Act)



## TANF Employment Services

Mandatory adults must participate in work activities for a minimum number of hours

Single parents: 30 hours per week

Single parents (with a child under age 6): 20 hours per week

Two-parent households have a weekly work requirement of 35-55 hours combined, depending on the activity.

Many support services are available to assist TANF Employment Services recipients including transportation, child care, tools and supplies, etc.



## Work Support Program (WSP)

May be eligible for 12 months after TANF closes due to employment:

- Work Support Payments: \$200 per month
- Transitional Support Services: Transportation, child care, AND
- Transitional Shelter Assistance: Up to \$1,500 toward rent/utility deposits



## Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

DFCS will provide enhanced financial assistance to a grandparent who is receiving or will be approved to receive TANF cash assistance for the grandchild and meets the following criteria:

- is a caretaker of his/her grandchild
- is 55 years of age or older, OR any age and is disabled
- is not participating in an existing foster care program and not receiving per diem payments, and
- household income is less than 160% of the federal poverty level (FPL).



## Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Monthly subsidy payment is \$100 per child per month

The Crisis Intervention Services Payment (CRISP) is designed to meet an emergency need of a grandparent who is raising a grandchild in his/her home. It is a one time only cash payment.



## Family Violence Emergency Assistance

- Provides short-term housing assistance to victims in state-certified domestic violence shelters
  - Currently serving: Cherokee, White, Habersham, Stephens, Rabun, DeKalb, Whitfield, Murray, Gordon, Gwinnett, Fulton, Clarke, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Madison, Fayette, Spalding, Pike, Upson, Clayton, Cobb.
- Pays up to \$3,000 for rent, deposits, utilities, and moving expenses
- Must have an ongoing sustainability plan and have income less than 300% FPL



# Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)



GEORGIA **LIHEAP**



# LIHEAP

Funded by an Annual Federal Block Grant

Program opens:

- November 1st for medically homebound and elderly households (65 years and older) (Georgia's Priority Group)
- December 1st for the general public (until funds are exhausted)

Benefits are provided on a first come/first served basis.

Households must be at or below 60% of Georgia's median income. For a household of one the income threshold is **\$22,045**; the income threshold for a household of five is **\$49,178**.

Household applicant must be a U.S. citizen or a legally admitted immigrant.



# LIHEAP

**Total Households Served**  
**137,385**

**Total Funding**  
 [Fiscal Year 2017]  
**\$56,223,772**

**Number of Community Partners Statewide**  
**19**

## Services provided

- Regular Energy Assistance
- Crisis Intervention Assistance
- Cooling Assistance
- Weatherization

## Can state adjust eligibility rules?

Can set income limits.

## Funding source

100% federal

## Program Legislative Authority

State Authority / Reference

O.C.G.A. Section 49-2-6(b)(8)

Federal Authority / Reference

42 U.S.C. Sections 8621 & 8624

## **Community Services Block Grant**

# **CSBG**

## CSBG

The purpose of the Community Services Block Grant is to allow states to provide core funding to local agencies to reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities and to empower low-income families to become self-sufficient.

Some examples of CSBG funds at work include:

- Crisis Intervention Services to prevent homelessness
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Senior Nutrition Program
- Nurses Aide Training and Scholarship Programs
- Commercial Driver's License Programs
- Mortgage Reinstatement Assistance
- Youth Afterschool Programs

**CSBG**

**Number of seniors receiving services who maintained an independent living situation**

**62,929**

**Number of Community Partners Statewide**

**24**

**Total Funding**

[FFY 2016]

**\$19,145,166**

**Services provided**

Services to help reduce causes & conditions of poverty

**Can state adjust eligibility rules?**

Can set income limits.

**Funding source**

100% federal

**Program Legislative Authority**

State Authority / Reference  
O.C.G.A. Section 49-8-2 et seq.

Federal Authority / Reference  
42 U.S.C. Section 9901 et seq.

## **Afterschool Care Program**

# **ACP**

## Afterschool Care Program

Provides resources to youth-serving organizations in Georgia who work with low-to-moderate income communities and the foster care system.

Ensures children and youth have access to high quality, constructive programs in their communities.

Provides children and youth opportunities to develop positive relationships with peers and caring adults during non-school day hours, holidays and school breaks.

There will be a Request for Proposal (RFP) soliciting new afterschool program contractors in early 2018.

# Afterschool Care Program

**Number of Children Participating**  
**56,100**

**Funding for Out-of-School Services**  
**\$15,000,000**

**Number of DFCS-funded programs that provide out-of-school services to youth across the state**  
**248**

**Percent of Georgia's counties that do not have a DFCS-funded afterschool care program**  
**57%**

**Services provided**  
Out-of-school care

**Can state adjust eligibility rules?**  
No.

**Funding source**  
100% federal

**Program Legislative Authority**  
State Authority / Reference  
O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-60 et seq. &  
49-5-7

Federal Authority / Reference  
42 U.S.C. Section 9858

**Questions?**

