



Lunch & Learn: Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP)

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Hunger Solutions New York is a statewide anti-hunger organization.

We increase **awareness** of, **support** for, and **participation** in federal nutrition assistance programs.



- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Community Eligibility Program (CEP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Agenda

What is ESAP?

Who qualifies for ESAP?

SNAP & ESAP

Application Process

Data matching/Documentation

What's next?

Outreach



What is ESAP?

What is ESAP?

Helps improve SNAP access rates among seniors and disabled individuals by helping enrollees maximize and maintain their SNAP benefits through improved efficiencies:

- Utilizes data matching
- Relaxed rules for other verification
- 36 month certification period
- Non mandatory interim report
- No interview at recertification time

Who qualifies for ESAP?

- All adult members must be a senior, or disabled
- Cannot have earned income
- Cannot be eligible for NYSNIP (NYSCAP)
- For SNAP purposes:
 - Adult- an individual 18+
 - Senior- an individual 60+
 - Disabled- an individual that receives SSI, SSD or another federal/state administered disability benefit

SNAP & ESAP



Same process as SNAP

- Simplified 2 page application
 - LDSS-5166
 - Return in person, via fax, or mail
 - Will need to provide more information
- Online
 - Upstate: mybenefits.ny.gov
 - NYDocSubmit (not available in all counties)
 - NYC: [Access HRA](#)
 - Mobile App

Data Matching & Documentation

Households can self declare:

- Standard Utility allowance (SUA)
- Other shelter related expenses such as rent, mortgage, taxes, insurance

Data matching will be used to verify:

- Unearned income
- Date of birth
- Social Security Number

Households still need to provide proof of:

- Residency
- Out of pocket medical costs over \$35
- Non federal/state sources of income
- Any questionable information

Reporting Requirements

Interim report

- 18 months
- Does not need to be returned
- Changes that increase the SNAP benefit will be verified and applied

Recertification

- 36 months
- Must return recertification application
- Report changes in HH composition
- Report any earned income that is received

Interview Rules

- Required: initial interview for new SNAP households eligible for ESAP
 - Not required: Recertification interview
- SNAP offices must offer a recertification interview:
- Before an ESAP recertification can be denied for any other reason than failure to submit the recertification application;
 - If recertification information is questionable
 - When the ESAP HH requests it

Ineligible for ESAP

- Keep the balance of the 36 month certification until next recertification
- No longer granted any of the other ESAP flexibilities
- Will need to follow regular reporting requirements that apply

What's next?

- New SNAP households will be screened for ESAP and moved into ESAP if eligible
- Newly enrolled households will receive a notice that outlines the benefits of ESAP and the extension period
- Households already enrolled in SNAP meeting ESAP eligibility will be placed in ESAP at next recertification date as long as they remain eligible for SNAP

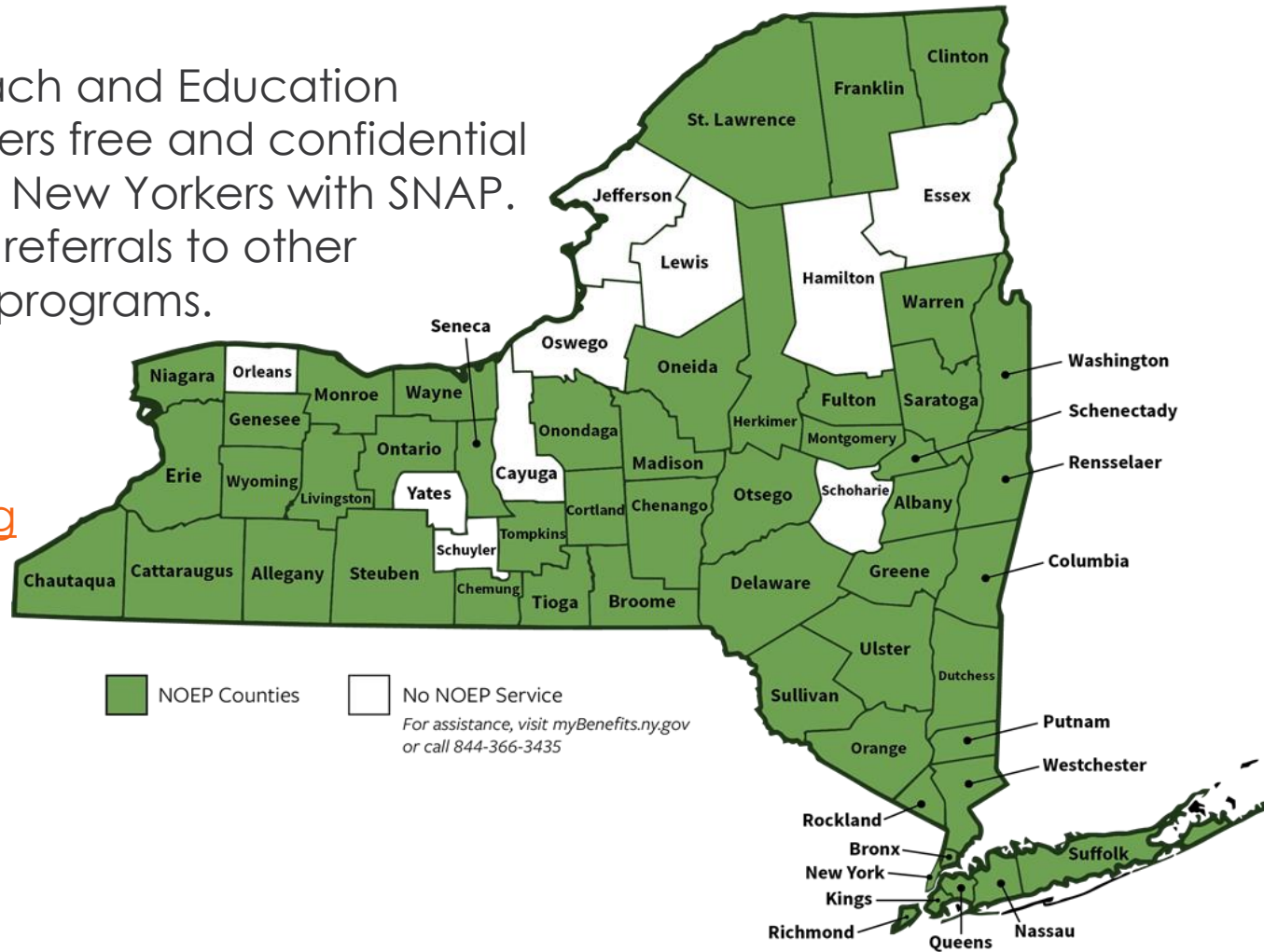
Outreach

- Application assistance available through NOEP
 - [FoodhelpNY.org](https://www.foodhelpny.org)
- SNAP & Seniors Professional Network
 - [Outreach Flyer](#)
 - New version in Spanish
- [SNAP Medical Expenses Brochure](#)
 - Created by OTDA

Nutrition Outreach & Education Program

The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) offers free and confidential services to connect New Yorkers with SNAP. NOEP also provides referrals to other nutrition assistance programs.

To find a local NOEP Coordinator, visit [FoodHelpNY.org](https://www.FoodHelpNY.org)



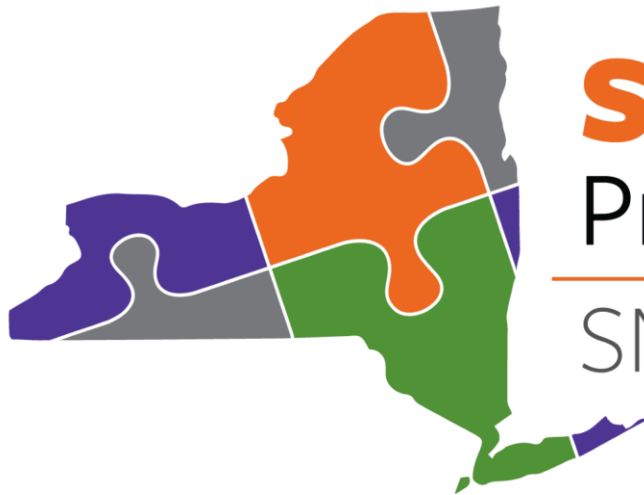
NOEP Coordinators

- Community outreach campaigns, presentations and events
- Pre-screen for eligibility and assist with SNAP application
- Gather documents, fill out, and submit a SNAP application
- Offer translation services, home visits, and in-person, e-mail, or over-the-phone assistance
- Work with local government offices to ensure each application is processed correctly
- Help resolve barriers to SNAP participation
- Assist with recertifications
- Education and referrals about other nutrition assistance programs (summer meals, school meals)



Thank you!

Questions?



SNAP & Seniors
Professional Network

SNAPandSeniorsNY.org