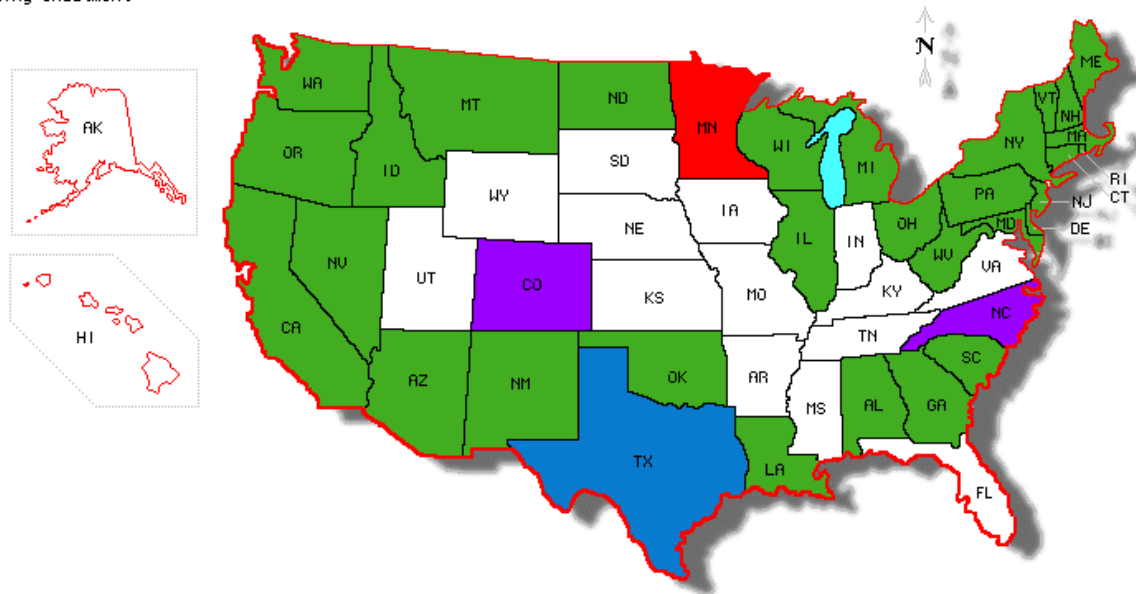


Expanding Access to SNAP/Food Stamps

States that have eliminated or raised the asset test to increase access and reduce administrative workload by adopting broad-based categorical eligibility for SNAP/Food Stamps

- - Eliminated
- - Raised to \$10,000
- - Raised to \$7,000
- - Pending enactment



Eliminating the Asset Test

States can take advantage of a federal option known as “categorical eligibility” to expand access to SNAP/Food Stamps by eliminating the requirement that households have less than \$2000 in assets (\$3000 for elderly or disabled households) in order to qualify for benefits.

This map shows the states that have eliminated or raised the asset test by adopting broad-based categorical eligibility for SNAP/Food Stamps.

For more information about ways for states to eliminate the SNAP/Food Stamp asset test and otherwise improve access to SNAP/Food Stamps, see FRAC’s “Heat and Eat: Using Federal Nutrition Programs to Soften Low-Income Households’ Food/Fuel Dilemma” (March 2009), posted at http://www.frac.org/pdf/heat_and_eat09.pdf

Notes

- The following states limit which households qualify for the asset exemption: California, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, and Washington.
- Idaho has implemented the change for one year and is considering implementing it for longer

Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service,
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/rules/Memo/2010/051310.pdf>

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6/15/10