More Food Stamp/SNAP Benefits for Families with Child Care Expenses

For all low-income families:

- If you pay expenses for the care of any child under 18 or disabled adult, your family can receive increased SNAP benefits (formerly called “food stamps”)!

- Every $3 you spend on childcare may increase your SNAP benefits by $1 – up to the maximum SNAP amount for your household!

- You can claim any dependent care costs you incur when -
  - You are working, or are looking for a job
  - You are attending school or work-related training
  - You are doing volunteer work or another activity required by the SNAP Employment/Training (E&T) Program

Q. What can you claim as expenses?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child or Adult Care</td>
<td>All payments you are responsible for, including co-payments, for a child or disabled adult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-School Activities for any child under 18</td>
<td>Any supervised activity, including before and after school, school vacation, summer camps, YMCA, and Boys/Girls Club fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mileage (at 55.5 cents per mile for 2011)</td>
<td>If you drive your child to/from the child care, or camp or school program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation Costs</td>
<td>If you or your child takes a bus, subway, or train to/from the child care, or camp or school program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Is there a limit or cap on the expenses I can claim?

- **NO.** You can claim the full amount of costs you pay.

For example: A mother with two children who earns $1800/month before taxes and pays $600 unheated rent will get $274 in SNAP. If she pays $300/month in child care and related travel, her SNAP will go up to $364/month.

Q. How do I claim child care expenses?

- You can **self declare** these expenses. You can write it on your application or recertification form, or give your DTA worker a signed statement. DTA should ask for proofs **only if** the information you provide is questionable. A sample form is found on the back of this sheet.
Self-Declaration of Child Care Costs for Food Stamp/SNAP Benefits

Your Name: _______________________________ Agency ID: ___________________ (if known)
Address where you live: ______________________________________________________

Children needing child care

1. ___________________________ Age ___________________________ 2. ___________________________ Age ___________________________
3. ___________________________ Age ___________________________ 4. ___________________________ Age ___________________________
[List additional children in care on another paper.]

My child care costs: (This includes direct care, co-pays, camps, other payments for care) (Please mark one)

I pay $ _________ /day OR $ _________ /week

My transportation costs: (This includes travel to and from the child care, camp, or school programs)

1. By car (DTA allows $.55.5 cents per mile if you use your car)

I drive _________ miles round trip, for _________ days per week

2. By public transportation (Please mark one)

I pay $ _________ /day OR $ _________ / week

Your signature:

I swear that the above information about my monthly child care costs is true to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ________________________________

▶ You can self-declare child care expenses on your SNAP application or recertification form, or you can use this form to self-declare costs. You have a right to claim these costs if you need child care to go to work, a training program or look for work. You do not need to provide a statement from your child care provider unless the information you provide is questionable.

You can also claim the cost of care needed for a disabled adult while you work, look for work or go to school. This includes adult day care services and transportation costs, or paying someone to provide care in your home for a disabled adult household member.