

Important Nutrition and Cash Benefits for Mass. Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) Participants

Low-income participants under the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) are often eligible for federally-funded SNAP benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), formerly known as “food stamps”. Very low-income MRC participants may also qualify for certain cash assistance benefits. These benefits are administered by the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA).

SNAP Benefits

What you need to know:

- MRC participants who are in any education or training programs – including 2 year or 4 year colleges – may qualify for SNAP. These students do not have to meet student SNAP rules.
- Participants in other MRC activities may also qualify for SNAP benefits.
- The SNAP “work rules” for childless adults age 18 to 50 do NOT apply to MRC participants. They are exempt from the SNAP work rules.

How to apply:

- Go to DTAConnect.com to apply online, OR
- Download a SNAP application to send via fax or mail here: Mass.gov/SNAP, OR
- Call Project Bread’s FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-8333, OR
- Visit your local DTA Office.

Cash Benefits

What you need to know:

- MRC participants who have little or no income (and very low assets) may qualify for a monthly cash assistance benefit called EAEDC (Emergency Aid to Elders, Disabled and Children).
- MRC participants who have minor children may qualify for TAFDC (Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children).
- MRC participants who get SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or Social Security as disabled will likely not be eligible for DTA cash assistance, but may qualify for their dependents.

How to apply:

- Visit a local DTA office to apply in person.

NOTE: MRC participants who do not receive a disability-based benefit (like SSI or Social Security) will need a statement confirming MRC participant status.

If DTA denies your application for benefits:

- Contact your local Legal Services Office: Masslegalservices.org/findlegalaid.