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Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) that have 40 quarters of work experience may be eligible for SNAP benefits. A quarter of coverage is any calendar quarter as follows:

- January 1 to March 31
- April 1 to June 30
- July 1 to September 30
- October 1 to December 31

The individual must have a specified amount of wages or self-employment income in each quarter to count that quarter.

Amount of Earnings Needed Per Quarter to Earn One Quarter of Coverage					
Year	Quantity of Earnings	Year	Quantity of Earnings	Year	Quantity of Earnings
1978	\$250	1990	\$520	2002	\$870
1979	\$260	1991	\$540	2003	\$890
1980	\$290	1992	\$570	2004	\$900
1981	\$310	1993	\$590	2005	\$920
1982	\$340	1994	\$620	2006	\$970
1983	\$370	1995	\$630	2007	\$1000
1984	\$390	1996	\$640	2008	\$1050
1985	\$410	1997	\$670	2009	\$1090
1986	\$440	1998	\$700	2010	\$1120
1987	\$460	1999	\$740	2011	\$1120
1988	\$470	2000	\$780	2012	\$1130
1989	\$500	2001	\$830	2013	\$1160
				2014	\$1200

A noncitizen client may claim work quarters if they:

- Have worked a minimum of 40 qualifying quarters under Title II of the Social Security Act; or
- Can be credited with a total of 40 qualifying quarters under Title II of the Social Security Act as worked by a combination of:
 - The noncitizen
 - The parent(s) of the noncitizen while the noncitizen was under age 18 including quarters worked before the noncitizen was born or adopted even if the noncitizen was not present in the US when the quarters were earned, and/or
 - The spouse of the noncitizen during their marriage if the noncitizen remains married to the spouse or is widowed

Note:	You cannot use any quarter claimed after 12/31/96 if the LPR received any assistance from a federally means tested program (see Guide for full listing)
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Verification of Work Quarters

A client may make a self-declaration as to working 40 quarters but you must verify this with one of the following:

- a current employer –prepared statement of earnings
- W-2 and W-2c, employer-prepared wage statement or an IRS copy of the individuals tax return
- a timely filed tax return for a self-employed individual

Note:	You must be sure that the proof of filing, canceled check, money order or copy of IRS schedule C form bearing the IRS time stamp indicates the return was filed within 3 years 3 months and 15 days after the end of the year in which the self-employment income was derived.
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- other evidence of self-employment that allows you to determine that a business did exist and that a profit was earned. Comparison of bills, payment vouchers, and receipts are examples of evidence you might use to make a determination
- records of employment agencies in Massachusetts or any other state
- any other evidence of earnings including pay envelopes, pay vouchers, union records, or an individuals copy of a Federal or State tax return
- Social Security Administration Records of a non-recipient

Note:	If the client states that they can claim work quarters from a spouse or a parent who worked before the noncitizen turned 18 you can request that the client obtain verification from the non-recipient client, spouse or parent. If the non-recipient client, spouse or parent refuses to cooperate the information can be obtained from SSA by using a Request for Quarters of Coverage History Based on Relationship SSA-513 form.
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- Social Security records for recipient clients can be requested from the Social Security Administration (SSA) by checking the "Claims 40 quarters" box on the Non-citizen page of BEACON
- Documentation of employment and earnings earned after the effective date from a foreign country listed below:

Foreign Country / Effective Date			
Country	Effective Date	Country	Effective Date
Austria	November 1,1991	Italy	November 1, 1978
Australia	October 1 2002	Japan	October 1, 2005
Belgium	July 1, 1984	Luxembourg	November 1, 1993
Canada	August 1, 1984	The Netherlands	November 1, 1990
Chile	December 1, 2001	Norway	July 1,1984
Czech Republic	January 1, 2009	Poland	March 1 , 2009
Denmark	October 1, 2008	Portugal	August 1,1989
		Slovak Republic	May 1, 2014
Finland	November 1, 1992	So. Korea	April 1, 2001
France	July 1, 1988	Spain	April 1, 1988
Germany	December 1, 1979	Sweden	January 1, 1987
Greece	September 1, 1994	Switzerland	November 1, 1980
Ireland	September 1, 1993	United Kingdom	January 1,1985

Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarters earned in any country not listed above may not be counted toward the 40 qualifying quarters. • The LPR is eligible for up to six-months of SNAP Benefits until the quarters are verified. If you receive information that the client does not meet the 40 qualifying quarters you must make the noncitizen ineligible for the program. If the noncitizen has less than 40 quarters and fails to qualify for benefits, recoupment of the benefits provided is not required. • Verification of Work Quarters can be requested from the Social Security Administration (SSA) by entering the Legal Permanent Resident Page of BEACON and selecting yes in the "40 Quarters Claimed" field (Click on the link "Entering Legal Permanent Resident data in BEACON" below for instructions). Once a request has been made a report will be sent within a few weeks to "Actuate Report Finder" detailing the work quarters of the noncitizen applicant.
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