17 AZSNAP

Arizona Simplified Nutrition Assistance Program (AZSNAP) is a demonstration project through the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

AZSNAP provides Nutrition Assistance (NA) to participants who meet all of the following:

- 65 years old or older

- Arizona resident

- Not institutionalized

- Receives the maximum Supplemental Security Income (SSI) amount

- Does not receive NA

- Lives alone or purchases and prepares food separately from others

  NOTE   A spouse is a mandatory participant. When the customer lives with their spouse(g) they are not eligible for the AZSNAP benefits.

Monthly, an interface between FAA and the Social Security Administration (SSA) identifies all who meet the above criteria and who are not currently receiving any type of NA. An AZSNAP application (X001) notice is automatically mailed and registered in AZTECS. The customer is instructed to return the completed AZSNAP application to the Research & Analysis AZSNAP unit.

When no response is received, a Second AZSNAP Application for NA (X002) is sent to the customer allowing an additional 30 days to respond. A new application is automatically registered in AZTECS with the date of the X002.

When the customer is applying for NA benefits and the case shows pending at site code 845C, complete the following:

- Clarify with the participant whether they are applying for AZSNAP or regular Nutrition Assistance. Document the customer's intent.

- Print the X001 or X002 that was mailed to them and have the customer answer all ten questions.

- [Upload(g)](#) the completed AZSNAP application into OnBase.

- Fax the AZSNAP application to the AZSNAP unit at (602) 257-7035.

- Forward the AZSNAP application to the AZSNAP unit at site code 845C.

NOTE   When the participant is applying for regular Nutrition Assistance (NA), the AZSNAP unit denies the AZSNAP application. The AZSNAP application is used to register the regular NA application.

WARNING

The AZSNAP unit must be notified to deny the AZSNAP application prior to registering it as a regular NA application.

When a customer prefers to mail the AZSNAP application, provide them with the following address:

AZSNAP Unit
PO Box 19009
Phoenix, AZ 85009

Eligibility and benefit amount for AZSNAP customers are determined ONLY by the AZSNAP unit. The AZSNAP application process requires the applicant to confirm the AZSNAP criteria by responding to the X001, X002 or the X004.

For initial approval the application date is the mail date of the X001 sent to the SSI recipient. When the customer fails to respond, the application date is the Second AZSNAP Application for NA (X002). The X002 is sent to the customer allowing an additional 30 days to respond. When approved, the customer is eligible for 36 months.

AZSNAP customers do not qualify for expedited benefits.

AZSNAP customers are NOT required to complete the following:

- An Interview

- Finger imaging (AFIP)

- Income verification

- Expense verification

- Report changes

AZSNAP customers can verbally designate an authorized representative for their case.

An electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card will be mailed to the customer.

AZSNAP participants will receive benefits for a 36 month approval period based on the total combined shelter and utilities cost. There are four allotment amounts of benefits that they may be eligible for. (See AZSNAP Allotment Amounts)

Medical expenses are NOT an allowable expense for AZSNAP. When the customer has excessive medical expenses they may be eligible for more benefits under the regular SNAP program.

Two months prior to the end of the approval period an AZSNAP Renewal Application NA (X004) is sent to allow them to apply for a re-certification of benefits. The recertification application is not automatically registered. The AZSNAP unit will register the recertification application when the X004 is received.

AZSNAP participants are NOT required to report changes.

When the SDX match shows that the customer is no longer receiving the full amount of SSI the AZSNAP unit will terminate the benefits. The customer may re-apply for regular NA benefits.