

**Proposals Affecting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—
CBO’s Estimate of the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides benefits that help people in low-income households to purchase food. People generally are eligible for SNAP if they participate in certain other assistance programs, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or can demonstrate that their income and assets fall below certain thresholds. SNAP benefit amounts are based on a household’s net income and size. The maximum benefit is determined by the number of people in the household and the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan (a basket of foods identified by the Department of Agriculture as providing a nutritious diet) for a group of that size. CBO’s projections of outlays for SNAP benefits are based on the estimated number of participating households and their average benefits.

These estimates are based on CBO’s baseline budget projections as of March 6, 2020, which do not incorporate changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

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Millions of Dollars, by Fiscal Year

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	March 25, 2020 2021- 2025	2021- 2030
Increases or Decreases (-) in Direct Spending Outlays												
Work Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Age 18 to 65 ^a	0	-3,278	-3,601	-3,445	-3,541	-3,887	-3,712	-3,796	-4,168	-3,983	-13,865	-33,411
Cap Federal Share of State Administrative Expenses at the 50th Percentile	0	0	-1,005	-1,038	-1,070	-1,102	-1,136	-1,171	-1,207	-1,244	-3,113	-8,973
Eliminate LIHEAP and HCSUA Link	-300	-720	-720	-730	-730	-740	-750	-760	-780	-800	-3,200	-7,030
Eliminate Nutrition Education	-451	-463	-475	-487	-498	-510	-521	-533	-545	-557	-2,374	-5,040
Eliminate the Minimum Benefit	-110	-255	-250	-260	-255	-270	-265	-260	-275	-275	-1,130	-2,475
Cap Household Benefits at the Six-Person Maximum Allotment	-105	-105	-105	-110	-110	-110	-110	-115	-115	-120	-535	-1,105
Modify Age Definition	0	0	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-70	-180	-490
Increase Claims Retention Rate for States	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	15	15	50	115
Create a Single SNAP EBT Transaction Gateway ^b	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	50	100
Eliminate Funding for Interoperability Grants	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-1	-1
Conduct Data Matching Between SNAP Recipients and Store Owners	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interactions	*	45	50	45	50	55	50	50	55	55	190	455
Establish America’s Harvest Box ^c	<i>n.e.</i>	<i>n.e.</i>										

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The President’s Budget also includes policies in other programs, such as Supplemental Security Income, that would change SNAP benefits for certain participants; those effects are not included on this table.

EBT = electronic benefit transfer; HCSUA = Heating and Cooling Standard Utility Allowance; LIHEAP = Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; n.e. = not estimated; * = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.

a. This policy was not sufficiently specified for CBO to make its own estimate of its effects on the budget. However, CBO included the Administration’s estimates as a placeholder because the agency judged those estimates to be achievable targets for the budgetary effects of detailed policies that might be proposed in the future. CBO assumed that the policy would become effective in 2022.

b. This policy was not sufficiently specified for CBO to make its own estimate of its effects on the budget. However, CBO included the Administration’s estimates as a placeholder because the agency judged those estimates to be achievable targets for the budgetary effects of detailed policies that might be proposed in the future.

c. This policy was not sufficiently specified for CBO to assess whether the proposal would result in costs or savings.