SNAP

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Many Americans living in poverty do not have access to healthy food at a reasonable price, compelling them to make unhealthy food choices. The goal of SNAP is to increase food security and access to a healthy diet among low-income households.

A framework for determining the feasibility and defining the adequacy of SNAP allotments.

FACTORS AFFECTING FOOD SECURITY AND ACCESS TO A HEALTHY DIET

TOTAL RESOURCES

- Financial/In-Kind Income
  - SNAP benefits
  - Other program benefits
  - Household income
  - Other resources (e.g., emergency food assistance)

- Amount of time available for securing/preparing food

INDIVIDUAL/HOUSEHOLD FACTORS

- Dietary knowledge
- Attitudes/preferences
- Cultural influences
- Skills/abilities
- Space/equipment
- Special needs

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

- Prices
- Location
- Transportation

PROGRAM GOALS

- Food security
- Access to a healthy diet

PURCHASING AND CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

- Amounts of food
- Kinds of food

SNAP PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

- Benefit Formula, Eligibility Criteria
- Nutrition Education
- Allowed Retail Outlets
- Incentives/Restrictions