



**Department of Human Services
Online Directives Information System**

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DISQUALIFICATION PENALTIES

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Disqualification from participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Program, commonly known as SNAP, occurs when a recipient admits guilt or is found guilty of a SNAP intentional program violation (IPV). Pursuant to U.S. Code, Title 7, Section 2015(b) (1), Agriculture, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the disqualification penalties are as follows:

- First-time offenders are disqualified for 12 months.
- Second-time offenders are disqualified for 24 months.
- Third-time offenders are disqualified permanently.

A recipient shall be ineligible to participate in SNAP for 10 years if the recipient has made a fraudulent statement or representation of identity or residence in order to receive multiple benefits simultaneously.

SNAP disqualification penalties have been increased for recipients who are found guilty in a federal, state or local court of trading or receiving SNAP benefits for firearms, ammunition, explosives or controlled substances. If a court finds that a recipient traded SNAP benefits for illegal drugs, the disqualification will be set at 24 months for a first violation and permanent disqualification for a second violation. If a court finds that a recipient traded SNAP benefits for guns, ammunition or explosives, the disqualification is permanent for a first violation. Recipients convicted of selling \$500 or more of SNAP benefits will be permanently disqualified from SNAP.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Disqualification from participation in the TANF Program occurs when a recipient admits guilt or is found guilty of TANF IPV. The recipient is disqualified from participation in the TANF Program for a prescribed period of time. Pursuant to U.S. Code, Title 42, Section 616 (b) Public Health and Welfare, Social Security Act, effective 05/1992 in Georgia, the disqualification penalties are as follows:

- First-time offenders are disqualified for 6 months.
- Second-time offenders are disqualified for 12 months.
- Third-time offenders are disqualified permanently.

A recipient shall be ineligible to participate in the TANF Program for 10 years if the recipient has made a fraudulent statement or representation of residence in order to receive multiple benefits in two or more states at the same time.