

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 190

By: Pederson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); directing the Department of Human Services to implement certain simplified requirements for specified individuals; describing simplified requirements; specifying certain qualifications; requiring the Department to perform certain eligibility verification; requiring the Director of Human Services to fulfill certain federal requirements and promulgate certain rules; directing certain increase in SNAP standard medical deduction; specifying eligible households; providing certain deduction limits; defining qualifying medical expenses; specifying additional limitations; requiring the Director to fulfill certain federal requirements and promulgate certain rules; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 241.5 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Department of Human Services shall develop and implement simplified certification and recertification requirements under the

1 Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) for Supplemental  
2 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for an individual who:

3 1. Is sixty (60) years of age or older or is a person with a  
4 disability, as determined by rules promulgated by the Director of  
5 Human Services;

6 2. Has no earned income; and

7 3. Resides in a household in which every individual residing in  
8 the household is sixty (60) years of age or older or is a person  
9 with a disability, as determined by rules promulgated by the  
10 Director.

11 B. The simplified requirements shall:

12 1. Allow an individual who meets the criteria under subsection  
13 A of this section to waive recertification requirements;

14 2. Simplify and reduce the number of verification requirements  
15 for certifying and recertifying the eligibility to receive SNAP  
16 benefits, which shall include the use of a shortened application  
17 form; and

18 3. Allow the individual to remain eligible for SNAP benefits  
19 for thirty-six (36) months after certification and after each  
20 recertification.

21 C. To qualify for SNAP under this section, an individual shall:

22 1. Submit to the Department a change reporting form every  
23 twelve (12) months during the thirty-six-month eligibility period;  
24 and

1        2. Report to the Department, in accordance with federal law,  
2 when the individual receives an increase in income.

3        D. The Department shall, in a manner that complies with federal  
4 law, use data matching to verify eligibility.

5        E. 1. The Director shall seek any necessary federal approval  
6 and fulfill any other federal requirements to implement ESAP as  
7 provided by this section.

8        2. The Director shall promulgate rules as necessary to  
9 implement the provisions of this section.

10       SECTION 2.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 241.6 of Title 56, unless there  
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13       A. For the purposes of determining eligibility and benefit  
14 amounts under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),  
15 the Department of Human Services shall establish an increase in the  
16 standard medical deduction for households with elderly or disabled  
17 members as provided by this section.

18       B. The increased medical deduction shall be available to  
19 households:

20       1. With one or more elderly or disabled members as defined in 7  
21 C.F.R., Section 271.2 who are applicants for or recipients of SNAP  
22 benefits; and

23       2. That incur medical expenses during the taxable year for one  
24 or more of the elderly or disabled members of the household.

1 C. 1. For the purposes of this section, an eligible household  
2 may deduct up to One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00) in  
3 qualifying medical expenses incurred by an elderly or disabled  
4 member.

5 2. In cases where the household has more than one eligible  
6 elderly or disabled member, the total allowable deduction shall not  
7 exceed Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) per household.

8 D. For the purposes of this section, qualifying medical  
9 expenses shall include, but not be limited to, expenses for  
10 prescription medications, doctor's visits, medical supplies, and  
11 other costs that meet the definition of medical expenses under  
12 federal or state law as applicable to public assistance programs.

13 E. 1. The deduction established under this section shall not  
14 exceed the amounts specified in subsection C of this section.

15 2. Any portion of the medical deduction not used in the current  
16 fiscal year shall not be carried over to the next year.

17 F. 1. The Director of Human Services shall seek any necessary  
18 federal approval and fulfill any other federal requirements to  
19 implement ESAP as provided by this section.

20 2. The Director shall promulgate rules as necessary to  
21 implement the provisions of this section.

22 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

23 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.  
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