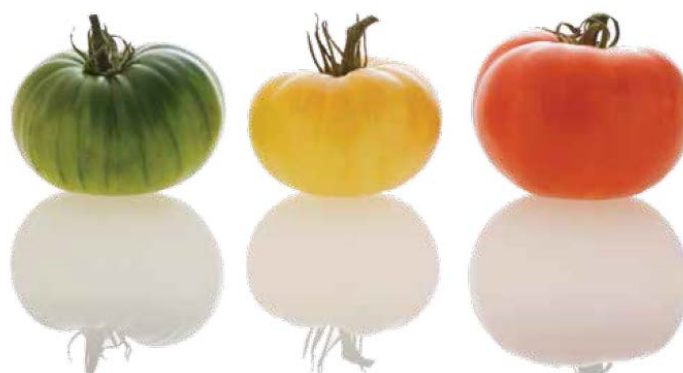


People with Immigrant (including USDA indigent immigrant), Refugee, or Asylee Status

Below is a list of qualified non-citizens potentially eligible for CalFresh:

- Asylees
- Battered Non-Citizens
- Certain Native Americans Born Abroad Living in the U.S./Federally-Recognized Tribe)
- Conditional Entrants
- Cuban or Haitian Entrants
- Deportation (or Removal Withheld)
- Hmong or Highland Laotian Tribal Members
- Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants—Special Immigrant Visa
- Lawfully Admitted for Permanent Residence (LPRs) includes Amerasian
- Parolees
- Refugees
- Trafficking Victims and Victims of Serious Crimes

Any of those above who have a sponsor (the sponsor signed a legally binding Form I-864) who apply for CalFresh benefits will need to provide their sponsors' financial information as well as their own. See the sponsor deeming section.



What steps must occur next?

Individuals who are eligible based on their immigration status must also satisfy other CalFresh eligibility requirements.

Applicants must be able to provide appropriate information and verification documents, citizenship/immigration status (preferably more than one type listed below to facilitate matching the immigration status with the applicant) including, but not limited to the following:

- A Form I-797 Notice of Action of Approval of Immigration Status
- Alien Number (A-number)
- Arrival/Departure Form I-94 or I-94A with a passport (United States or Foreign Passport)
- Birth Certificate
- Certificate of Naturalization or Citizenship
- Lawful Permanent Resident Card Form I-551 or I-551
- Judge's Order dated and signed showing deportation/or removal withheld subject to 243(h) or 241(b)(3) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA)
- Memorandum of Creation of Record of Lawful Permanent Residence (I-181)
- Special Immigrant Visa
- U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Certification Letter (ORR Certification Letter)
- Visa (Examples: Special Immigrant, T-Visa)
- U-Visa
- United States or Foreign Passport

Any noncitizen not applying for benefits (a non-applicant) does not have to provide a social security number, citizenship or immigration status verification; however, all household members, whether or not they are applying for benefits, must provide income and resource information for the CalFresh benefit calculation.

Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for CalFresh benefits. However, there may be other people living in the house that are eligible (especially children).

Sponsor Deeming

Non-citizens are required to submit their sponsor's financial information if the sponsor signed a legally binding affidavit of support, unless the sponsor left the United States or the sponsor is an institution.

Public Charge

Receiving CalFresh does not make an immigrant a public charge and they will not be deported, denied entry to the country, or denied lawful permanent residence status on public charge grounds due to his or her receipt of nutrition assistance. Similarly, lawful receipt of CalFresh will not affect an immigrant's ability to naturalize. See the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services official letter: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/calfreshoutreach/PG3303.htm>.

Opting Out

Before an eligibility determination on an initial application [MPP 63-300(2)(F)], noncitizens can choose not to receive benefits. These non-applicants, if they are a part of the household, will need to provide income and resource verification.

More Information

For more information regarding immigrant eligibility, see the Federal Guidance on Non-Citizen Eligibility:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Non-Citizen_Guidance_063011.pdf

For assistance with the meaning of immigration terms, see ACIN I-102-10:

http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin/2010/I-102_10.pdf

