Changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Work Requirements

Beginning **October 1, 2023**, individuals in Maricopa County who are **18 through 52** years of age, without minor dependents, and physically and mentally fit for work can only receive SNAP for 3 months in a 36-month period, unless they can demonstrate that they are meeting work requirements (see DES webpage below) OR qualify for an exemption. Individuals residing on federally recognized tribal reservations within Maricopa County are exempt from these requirements until September 30, 2024.

**Effective September 1, 2023**, the following **new exemptions** exist for individuals:

- **VETERANS**: regardless of your discharge status.
  
  Verification documents include **but are not limited to**:
  
  - Veteran Affairs ID Card, Benefit payment or award letter from the VA, Service department records such as a DD Form 214, Report of Transfer or Discharge, or a Military ID Card indicating service in the armed forces.

- **HOMELESS**: including lacking a fixed and regular nighttime residence, staying with another individual temporarily (“couch surfing”) for 90 days or less, staying in a temporary shelter, or place not meant for sleeping.
  
  Verification documents include **but are not limited to**
  
  - A written statement by the unhoused individual, or a collateral contact completed by a homeless shelter, individual you are staying with, or **any other individual** aware of your circumstances.

- **FORMER FOSTER CARE YOUTH**, between the age of 18 to 24, who were in the custody of foster care on the day the participant turned 18 years of age, or a higher age, when the foster care program offers

  Verification documents include **but are not limited to**:

  - A collateral contact to other social service workers or agencies, such as the agency administering the foster care program or Medicaid.