

## Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

- Check if you are eligible for CCAP using the Child Care Eligibility Calculator ([www.dhs.state.il.us/applications/ChildCareEligCalc/eligcalc.html](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/applications/ChildCareEligCalc/eligcalc.html)).
- If you are eligible, read *Tips for Completing Child Care Application Online* ([www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=68333](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=68333)) and *How to Open PDF Forms* ([www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=136804](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=136804)).
- Download and complete the application (available in English and Spanish) at [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=68333](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=68333).
- Visit [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30355](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30355) for more info about finding quality child care.

## Homeless Youth Services

- Homeless Youth Services strives to meet the immediate survival needs (food, clothing, and shelter) of youth and assist them in becoming self-sufficient.
- Visit [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30369](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30369) for more info.

## Student Opportunities for Academic Results (SOAR)

[siue.edu/vcedi/soar](http://siue.edu/vcedi/soar)

Phone: 618-650-3790 | Email: [soaroffice@siue.edu](mailto:soaroffice@siue.edu)

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**  
EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

## Financial Resources



## Receiving Assistance through the State of Illinois

Food Assistance (SNAP, TEFAP, WIC, WIC FMNP, Cougar Cupboard), Cash Assistance (TANF & AABD), Healthcare Coverage (Medicaid & All Kids), Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Homeless Youth Services

## Applying for Food Assistance (SNAP), Cash Assistance (TANF & AABD), and Healthcare Coverage

Applications can be submitted online at [www.ABE.Illinois.gov](http://www.ABE.Illinois.gov) or by calling the ABE hotline at 1-800-843-6154.

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** (formerly Food Stamps) helps low income people and families buy the food they need for good health. Benefits are provided on the Illinois Link Card - an electronic card that is accepted at most grocery stores.
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** provides temporary financial and Healthcare Coverage for pregnant women and families with one or more dependent children. TANF provides financial assistance to pay for food, shelter, utilities and expenses other than medical. **Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled (AABD) Cash** is for people who are aged, blind and/or disabled and need money. A person who is eligible for the AABD Cash program receives cash and Healthcare Coverage.
- **Healthcare Coverage (Medicaid & All Kids)** is offered to eligible children, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities. These programs provide access to health care at a reasonable cost.
- **If you need a Federal Work Study job to qualify for SNAP**, you can apply for Regular Student Employment (or Non-Work Study) positions as well as Federal Work Study (FWS) positions on Student Job Finder ([www.siu.edu/student-employment/faq/index.shtml](http://www.siu.edu/student-employment/faq/index.shtml)).
- **How long will it take to get benefits?** It can take up to 30 days to get your SNAP benefits. If you have little/no money and need food right away, you may get benefits sooner. It can take up to 45 days to process Cash Assistance applications. Healthcare Coverage applications may take up to 45 days or, if eligibility is based on a disability, 60 days. Call the DHS Help Line at 1-800-843-6154 (TTY: 1-800-447-6404) to check the status of your application. If your application is denied, your notice will tell you how to file an appeal.

## The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

- TEFAP provides food at no cost to help supplement the diets of needy low-income households. The EFP is a Federal program administered by the Department of Human Services in Illinois.
- Individuals or households who are residents of Illinois and meet income guidelines are eligible. Food pantries may ask for proof of identity and residency. People who receive prepared meals at soup kitchens or homeless shelters are considered income eligible. See [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30366](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30366) for income guidelines.
- Food pantries are open every week for at least two hours to serve the public and have privately donated food available on an emergency basis in addition to USDA commodities. Soup kitchens serve prepared, group meals to homeless, transient or other needy people. Visit [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=31245](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=31245) for a list of food pantries and soup kitchens in Illinois.

## Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

- WIC is A food assistance program for Women, Infants, and Children. It helps low to medium income pregnant women, new mothers, and young children eat well and stay healthy.
- Visit [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30513](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30513) for more information and the Pre-Screening Tool.
- Use the DHS Office Locator ([www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?module=12&officetype=11&county=](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?module=12&officetype=11&county=)) to find your local WIC office. Make an appointment and find out what papers or documents you need to bring with you. At your appointment, WIC staff will check to see if you and your family qualify. If you need assistance, contact the State WIC Office at (217) 782-2166.
- Ask about the WIC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) which provides special checks to buy fresh, nutritious fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands.

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**The SIUE Cougar Cupboard Food Pantry** supplies free food and toiletry items anonymously to students, faculty, and staff in need. | For more info and to fill out the New Client Form, visit [www.siu.edu/kimmel/student-involvement/community-engagement/cougar-cupboard.shtml](http://www.siu.edu/kimmel/student-involvement/community-engagement/cougar-cupboard.shtml).