



Facts about Food & Nutrition Services (FNS) and the Homeless

Food & Nutrition Services (FNS) is the new name for the Food Stamp Program in North Carolina. It's easier than ever before to qualify for nutrition benefits!

Fact: A person doesn't have to have a mailing address to get FNS benefits, but the DSS office will still need an address where mail can be sent, such as a shelter, church, or friend's house.

Fact: People who live in a shelter that provides meals may still be able to get FNS benefits.

Fact: DSS offices must set up ways to serve people who are homeless. If a person prefers not to go to the DSS office, he/she may ask for a telephone interview.

Fact: Young people who are homeless can apply for FNS benefits on their own. Their parents' income doesn't count in determining their eligibility for FNS benefits.

Fact: People who are homeless with no dependents do not need to have or look for a job to apply for FNS benefits. Once they get benefits, the FNS caseworker will explain any work requirements.

Fact: A person can't be turned down for FNS benefits because he/she doesn't have a kitchen or a place to cook.

Fact: A person needs proof of identity to get FNS benefits but can't be turned down for benefits because he/she doesn't have a photo ID.

For more information, please call 919-334-1224, or visit www.fns4nc.org.

