Hawaii Department of Human Services:
The department's goal is to provide programs, services and benefits for the purpose of empowering those who are the most vulnerable in our state.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

SNAP is a federal program funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As of October 1, 2008, **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program.** Each state administers a SNAP. The new name reflects the focus on nutrition and putting healthy food within reach for **low income households**. In FY 2012, SNAP helped put food on the table for approximately 90,534 Hawaii families each month. The program provides crucial support to Hawaii's needy households and to those making the transition from welfare to self sufficiency.

The Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card system was implemented in Hawaii in 1998 for disbursement of not only SNAP but also financial assistance benefits. This EBT card has the individual's cash benefits, child care assistance, and SNAP equivalent that may be drawn down like a debit card.

To participate in the SNAP:

- Households in which all members receive or are authorized to receive TANF or SSI cash assistance are categorically eligible for SNAP. There is no gross income limit, no net income limit and no asset limit.
- Households that are provided a TANF funded service, such as the DHS 1464 TANF Informational Brochure, whose gross monthly income is less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), may also be categorically eligible for SNAP with no asset limit.
- Households that contain a member who is disqualified from SNAP may not be categorically eligible for SNAP, but may be eligible for SNAP at 130% FPL and **with an asset limit of $2,000 or $3,250 if there is an elderly or disabled household member.**
- **Net monthly income must be 100% or less of federal poverty guidelines**, which was **$1,830 for a family of three in Hawaii effective October 1, 2012.** Net income is figured by adding all of a household's gross income, and then taking a number of approved deductions for child care, some shelter costs and other expenses. Households with an elderly or disabled member are subject only to the net income test.
- Most able-bodied adult applicants must meet certain work requirements.
- All household members must provide a Social Security number or apply for one.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Income Standards - HI
http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/FY12_Income_Standards.htm

Application for Financial and SNAP Assistance
http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Benefits-Application.pdf