

About FloridaLawHelp.org

FloridaLawHelp.org is administered by Florida Legal Services, Inc. and is produced in cooperation with Pro Bono Net and the legal services organizations and government agencies throughout Florida and the United States.

This brochure is for general education only. It is not intended to be used to solve individual problems.



The Florida Bar Foundation,
with *Interest on Trust Accounts*
program funding, provides
support for this service.

FloridaLawHelp.org

Locate your local legal aid or legal services office,
please visit us on the web at

www.floridalawhelp.org

Your local legal aid or legal services office can be
located through either the “Find Local Help” or
“Directory” links at the top of the page.

If you don't have access to the internet,
consult your local Directory Assistance for the
number of the legal aid or legal services office
nearest to you.

FloridaLawHelp.org

ARE NON- CITIZENS ELIGIBLE FOR SSI & FOOD STAMPS?



CAN I GET SSI OR FOOD STAMPS?

To receive SSI (Supplemental Security Income for those with a disability) or food stamps, one of the following must apply to you:

- You are a United States citizen; or
- You are a refugee who has been living in the United States for less than five years; or
- You are a person who was granted asylum less than five years ago; or
- You are a non-citizen whose deportation was withheld by INS [Section 248(h)] less than five years ago; or



- You are the spouse or an unmarried dependent child of a non-citizen member of the United States armed forces on active duty; or



- You are the spouse or dependent child of a non-citizen veteran of the United States armed forces who was granted an honorable discharge; or
- You are a lawful permanent resident (LPR) who has worked in the United States for approximately 10 years (This is called the 40 covered quarters requirement).



- You are under 18 and credited with the work time earned under your parents.
- You are married and credited with the work time earned by your spouse during your marriage, even if your spouse has died.



If you are not a U.S. citizen, your work time quarters earned after December 31, 1996 do not count if, during the period of work, you received federally funded public assistance.

- If you do not fit into any of the categories listed in this brochure, you cannot receive SSI or food stamps.



- Still, you may be able to get Medicaid or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families).



- If you think you may be eligible for Medicaid or TANF, apply at your local DCAF (Department of Children and Families) office.



- If you need assistance and you are turned down for benefits of any kind, or if you have questions, contact your local legal services or legal aid office. We may be able to help.