

Policy Clarification

SNAP- All

PFS- 19479-550

Submitted: 6/12/2019

Agency: CAOs

Subject: Treatment of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps vista income

Question: What are AmeriCorps NCCC, AmeriCorps State and National, and AmeriCorps VISTA and what income is excluded during eligibility?

Response By: Division of Federal Programs and Program Management

Date: 07/26/2018

AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs, made up of three primary programs that each take a different approach to improving lives and fostering civic engagement: AmeriCorps NCCC, AmeriCorps State and National, and AmeriCorps VISTA.

For SNAP eligibility purposes, AmeriCorps NCCC and AmeriCorps State and National income is excluded. This income should not be used to calculate the household's benefit. The CAO must verify excluded income when the household has little or no income or very low income and the presence of the excluded income may explain the household's continued existence with no apparent income.

AmeriCorps VISTA income is excluded for volunteers who were receiving SNAP benefits or Cash assistance at the time they joined AmeriCorps VISTA. Income from AmeriCorps VISTA income is counted for new SNAP applicants not receiving SNAP benefits or Cash Assistance at the time they joined AmeriCorps VISTA.

Temporary interruptions in SNAP benefits do not change the exclusion once an initial determination has been made.