

CalFresh Application A Comprehensive Step-by-Step Guide

For UCSF Professional Students. Ed. 2021-2022 Ed. 27th September, 2021.

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Step-By-Step Instructions

Creating an Account through MyBenefitsCalWin (15 steps)



Watch a video form the county for instructions on creating an account and getting started on your application

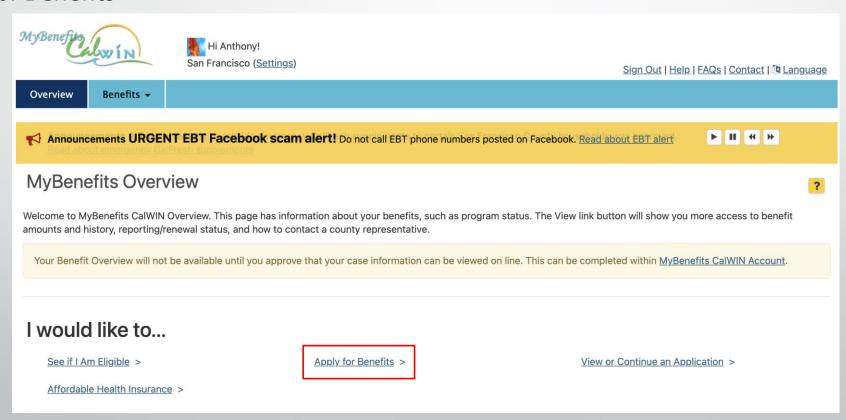
<u>MyBCW Applying for Aid CUSTOMER version - YouTube</u>

1. Create an account

- Visit https://www.mybenefitscalwin.org and select Create an Account
 - Select your county Select the county you will be living in for the next 3-6 months.
 - Apply for Benefits Click "Next".
 - Contact Information The county will communicate with you directly through the contact information you provide. You can use your UCSF email address or your personal email address.
 - Create User Name and Password
 - Select Three Security Questions
 - Select a Profile Image
 - Verify Your Email MyBenefitsCalWin will send a confirmation email to the email address you used to create your account.

2. Apply for Benefits

Log into your account https://www.mybenefitscalwin.org and select Apply for Benefits



3. What you will need to apply

- To apply for benefits, you will be asked to provide:
 - Copy of your pay stub
 - Bills you pay (Rent, Utilities, Childcare)
 - School Documentation
 - Complete the <u>School Documentation for CalFresh</u> to request the documents to confirm your Federal Work Study eligibility, o EFC, and Full Time Enrollment to qualify for Student Exemptions

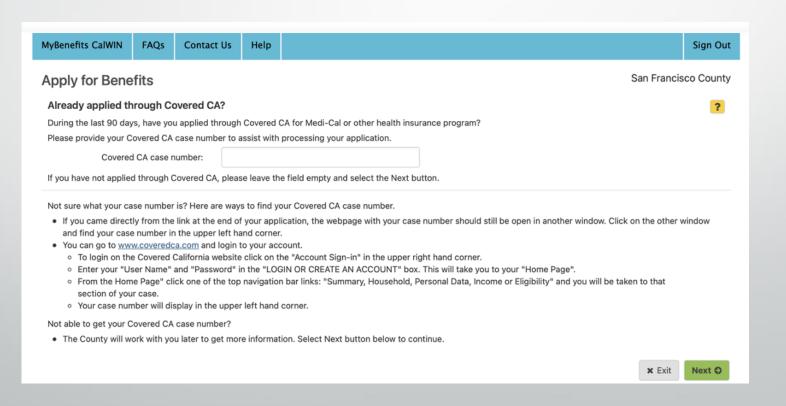
4. Acknowledgements

- Read the acknowledge the Disclosure Statements
 - Click "I Understand"
 - Click "Next"
- Read and acknowledge the Certification Statement
 - Click "I Understand"
 - Click "Next" These are Rights and Responsivities you will have to confirm before continuing with the application

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5. Have you applied for CalFresh before?

• If you have applied for CalFresh or any other benefits before, provide the Covered CA Case number. If not, you can leave blank.



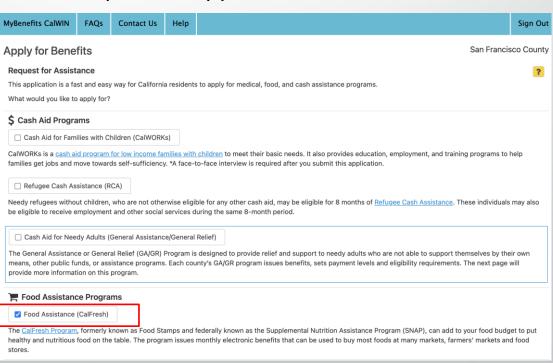
6. Select Benefits

This is where you will select Food Assistance Programs to start your application for CalFresh.

 You can also opt to apply for other county benefits, such as Medi Cal, if you are interested, however, our office can only offer support with CalFresh

applications.

 We encourage students to answer all questions honestly and transparently, your answers on the application will not automatically exclude you from CalFresh consideration.

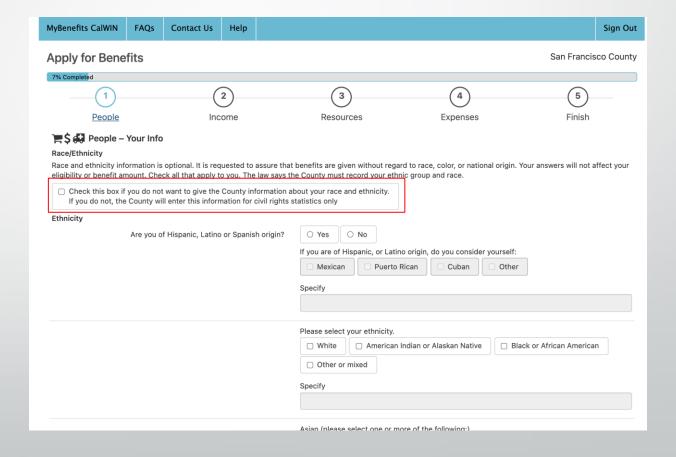


7. CalFresh Application

- People Read the statement and click "Next".
- Contact Information Address at which you will be able to receive mail for at least 3 months. If you move or change addresses, you can make updates through the MBCW portal.
- Expedited/Immediate Assistance Answering Yes to these questions for expedited or immediate assistance means you need to be available to complete your application and pick up your EBT card within 3 business days. (If you need immediate food assistance we would recommend reaching out to our office if you cannot meet all requirements within 3 business days.)
- Provide your electronically signature.

8. Demographic Information (Optional)

- Provide your demographic information.
- You can opt of out submitting any demographic information like by clicking the opt out box on the top of the page.



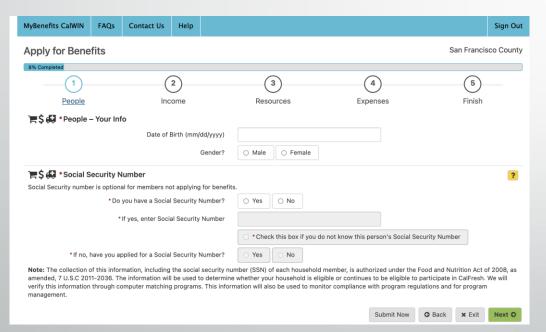
9. Interview Accommodations

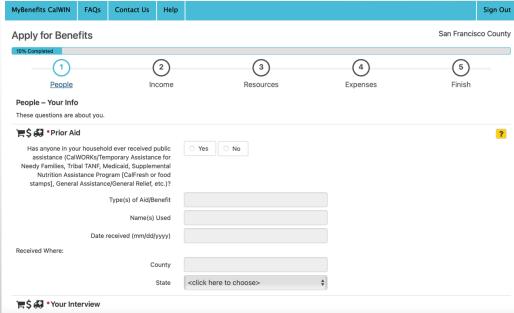
- You can request an interpreter for your phone interview.
- Our office cannot coach or attend interviews with our students.



10. CalFresh Application (Cont.)

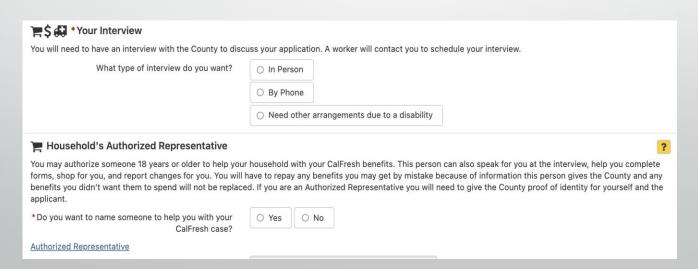
- Personal Information
- Previous Benefits





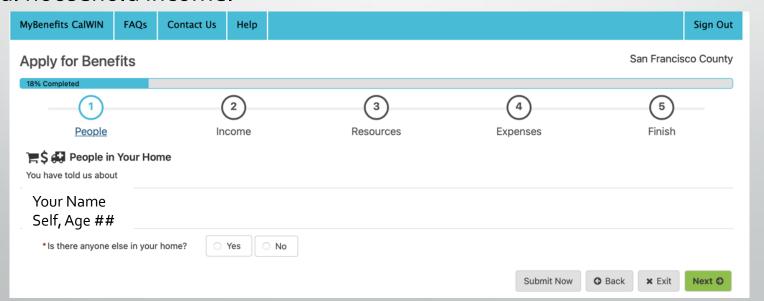
11. Interview

- Interview Type During the pandemic, all interviews are over telephone.
- Authorized Representative If you are unable to complete the application process or use the EBT card yourself, you can select an Authorized Representative.
 - Our office cannot be an authorized representative for any of our students.
 - This is generally for people with caretakers or others who act on their behalf.



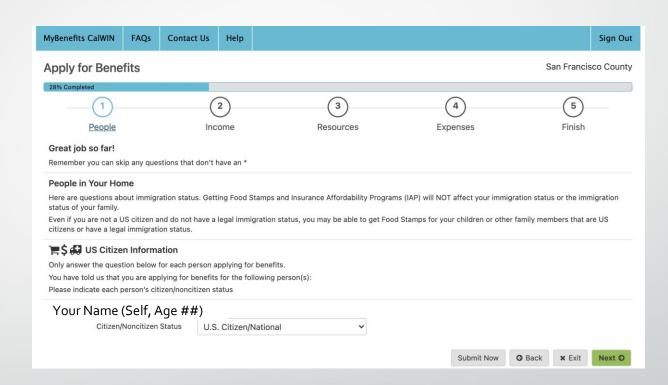
12. Household Information

- Whether or not you live with other people, you can apply for CalFresh as a single person household as long as you purchase and prepare food for yourself. Most of our students apply as a single person household even if they have roommates.
- If you claim other people in your household you will have to submit their information on your application and their income will be counted toward the total household income.



13. People

- Only Citizens and Permanent Residents are eligible to receive CalFresh Benefits.
- If you are an international or undocumented student, you cannot apply for CalFresh, however there are other forms of assistance available through our office.
- You can reach out to us directly at <u>finaid@ucsf.edu</u>

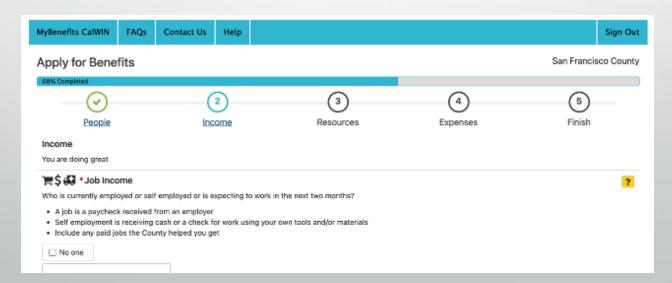


14. People (Cont)

- Report Disabilities
- Provide Care Giver Information
- Report In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) You can find the details about IHSS on the <u>California Department of Social Services</u> website.
- Additional Services Indicate any services you want to learn more about.
- Complete Background Information
- Provide Housing Details
- Provide Food Program Details
- Provide Prior Aid Information
- Provide Military Service Information

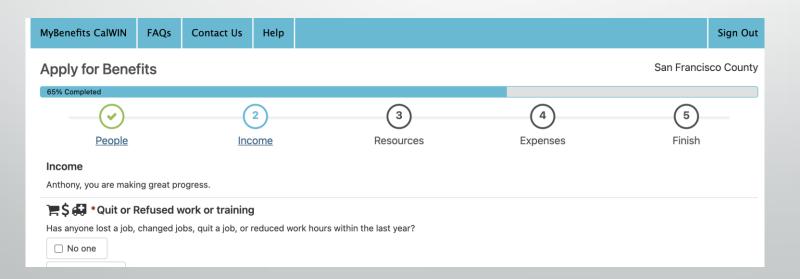
15. Income

- As UCSF students, if you are on financial aid, you will be reporting as "other income."
- This is also where you will report your Federal Work Study eligibility.
- If you are receiving a stiped as a PhD student or from an outside agency like HPSP these stipends may be over the income thresholds and make you ineligible for CalFresh. You can contact our office for more details.



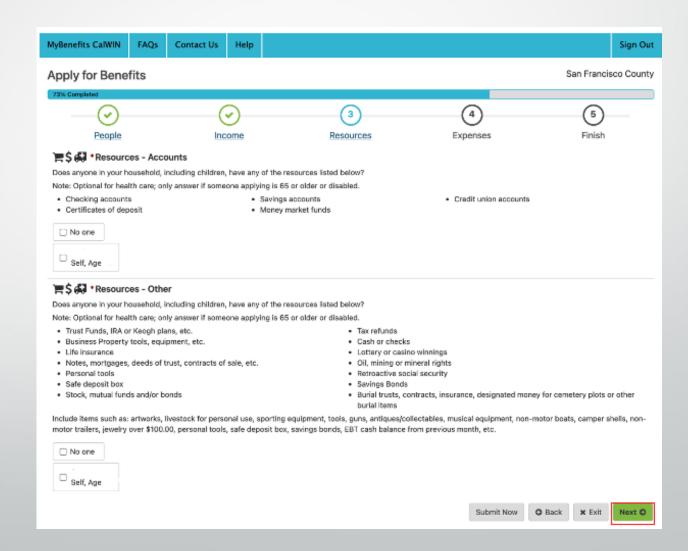
16. Employment

- If you left a job in the past 30 days, you will be asked to submit copies of your last pay stubs.
- UCSF students are "college students". Request verification of your full time student status through <u>School Documentation for CalFresh</u> form.



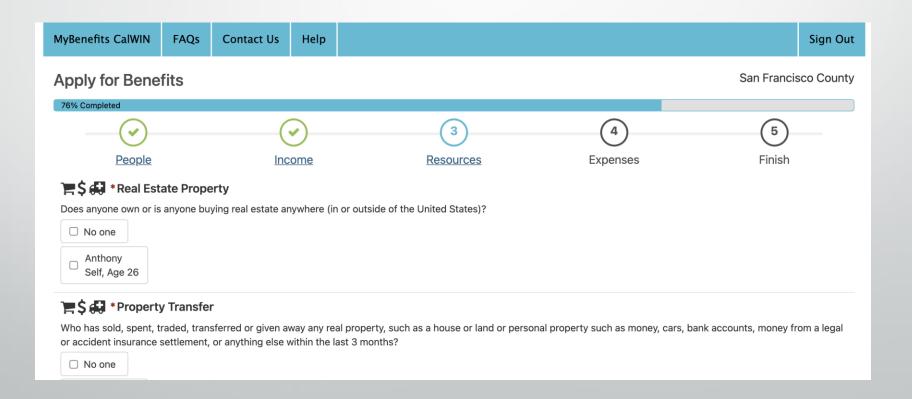
17. Additional Resources

 Request additional information on available resources.



18. Property

Indicate and property.

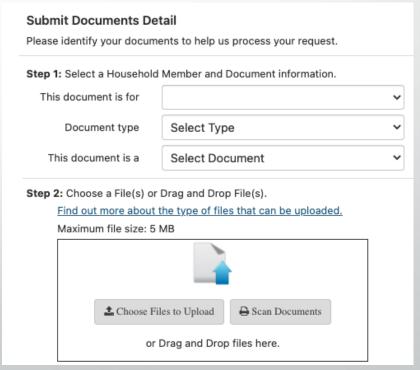


19. Expenses

- Provide a List of Expenses
 - Housing (Rent, Mortgage, Property Taxes, Insurance, Temporary Housing, etc.
 - Utility Bills
 - Low Income Home Energy/Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - Child/Adult Care Expenses
 - Medical Bills
- If you are receiving support from family members or outside sources for housing, your family or outside agency will need to pay your housing directly so it is considered a vender payment rather than in-kind income.
- If your parents or outside agency send you money that you in turn use to pay your rent, it
 will be treated as in-kind income and will added to the total income to meet the
 thresholds for eligibility.

20. Supporting Documentation

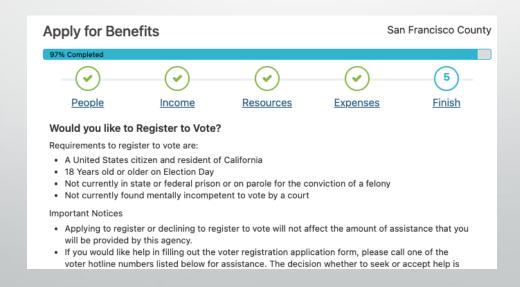
- Based on your responses in the application, supporting documentation will be requested.
- You will at least need to submit:
 - Government Photo ID
 - Lease or rental agreement
 - Verification of SSN.
- You can upload the supporting documents from our office to support your application under student exemptions.



Your Name

21. Voter Registration (Optional)

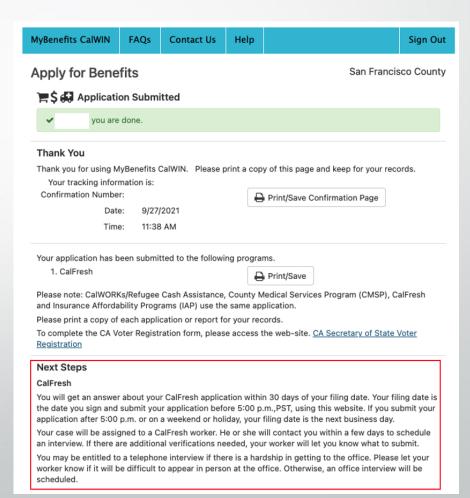
- You have the option to register to vote along with submitting your application.
- If you are an out of state student, you can use voter registration to support your reclassification as a California Resident for Tuition purposes. You can find more details with the <u>Office of the Registrar</u>.



21. Next Steps

Congratulations! You successfully submitted your CalFresh application.

- There will be a telephone interview with a county caseworker.
- If you did not submit all your supporting documents, you can go back into your MBCW portal and upload them as soon a they are available.
- During the pandemic the county has been inundated with CalFresh applications, there maybe longer than usual waits in responses and outreach from the county.



CalFresh Questions?

UCSF Financial Aid Office

Location, Contact, Hours

500 Parnassus Ave MU-201W San Francisco, CA 94143 Phone: (415) 476-4181 Fax: (415) 476-6652 Email: finaid@ucsf.edu Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

San Francisco County

If you need help with this website: call (415) 558-1001

CALFRESH (FOOD STAMPS) - San Francisco Human Services Agency

CalFresh Office 1235 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94103 Phone: (415) 558-4700

- Your CalFresh Case Worker
- How-To-Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UoZbGzyrxQ&ab_channel=MyBenefitsCalWIN