



PIMA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Local Impact of Federal Policy Changes to SNAP & AHCCCS

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Background

- On July 4, 2025 Congress passed H.R. 1, resulting to changes in AHCCCS and SNAP benefits.
- The Health Department proposes a coordinated response to known and upcoming policy changes to help mitigate the potential impact.

Federal SNAP Eligibility & Reporting Requirements

Before and After HR 1

Feature	Before H.R.1	After H.R.1
ABAWD Age Range	Required only for ages 18–54	Expanded to ages 18–64
Eligible Immigrant Groups	Refugees, asylees, parolees eligible	Restricted primarily to Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) and limited categories
Geographic Waivers	Arizona qualified most counties under “insufficient jobs”	Waivers allowed only in areas with >10% unemployment (only Yuma + select Tribal areas qualify in FY26)
Income Calculation	Standard deductions (utilities, internet, etc.) applied	Deductions removed; eligibility now based on gross income with fewer allowable deductions
Parental Exemption	Exempt if caring for a child under 18	Exempt only if caring for a child under 14
Verification	Some self-attestation allowed	Self-attestation eliminated; verified proof required for income & work activities
Veterans / Homeless / Former Foster Youth Exemption	Exempt under Fiscal Responsibility Act	Exemption removed unless qualifying under another category

SNAP Impact: July 2025-April 2026

Arizona and Pima County Case Counts and Benefits

Indicator	Arizona		Pima County		% Change in Pima County
	July 2025	April 2026	July 2025	April 2026	
SNAP households	455,652	235,162	78,001	39,197	-49.8%
➤ SNAP participation (individuals)	908,989	435,196	144,720	67,671	-53.2%
➤ SNAP participation (adults)	534,918	266,348	91,104	43,961	-51.8%
➤ SNAP participation (children)	374,071	168,848	53,616	23,710	-55.8%
Average monthly SNAP benefit (household)	\$356.59	\$311.43	\$330.79	\$282.15	-14.7%

DBME January 2026 Statistical Bulletin. [Arizona Department of Economic Security](#). April 2026. Accessed June 4, 2026.

AHCCCS Eligibility & Reporting Requirements

Before and After HR 1

Feature	Before H.R.1	After H.R.1
Immigrant Eligibility	Included multiple humanitarian statuses (asylum, refugee)	Narrowed eligibility. Restrictions begin Oct 1, 2026
Redeterminations	Annual, 12-month renewal	Semiannual, every 6 months, starting Jan. 1 2027
Retroactive Coverage	Up to 3 months before application	Limited to 1 month for expansion adults. 2months for traditional AHCCCS groups starting Jan. 1 2027
Verification	Standard verification schedule	Shorter response windows, more frequent proof-of-work requirements, and increased documentation starting Jan 1, 2027
Work Requirement Exemptions	States allowed broad exemptions, including medical frailty and other health-related conditions	Exemptions narrowed. Medical frailty remains but requires stricter verification effective Dec. 31, 2026. <i>Note: proposed changes to the medical frailty exemptions are currently out for public comment.</i>
Work Requirements	No federal mandate; required waivers, including 1115 Waiver	Work/ community engagement requirements mandated for expansion for adults ages 19-64 by Dec. 31, 2026

Projected AHCCCS Impact

Statewide Estimates

- An estimated 380,000 members are subject to potential AHCCCS disenrollment.
- Approximately 190,000 adults statewide (adults 19–55 in Group VIII who are not exempt) are subject to new AHCCCS work-requirement rules (exposed population).
- An additional 50,000 statewide disenrollments are expected from semiannual redeterminations.

Arizona Governor's Office of Strategic Planning & Budgeting.

FY 2027 Budget

Arizona Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

FY 2027 Baseline Book.



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Pima County Response to SNAP and AHCCCS Changes

2026-2027 Action Plan

What this Means for Children and Families in Pima County

In the Context of Prosperity Initiative

- The Prosperity Initiative aims to **reduce poverty for families with children in Pima County.**
- Between July 2025 and April 2026, approximately 29,906 children in Pima County lost SNAP benefits.
- Between March 2023-February 2026, 35,813 children across Arizona disenrolled in Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage, a decrease of 24%.

DBME January 2026 Statistical Bulletin. Arizona Department of Economic Security.
April 2026. Accessed June 4, 2026.

[Medicaid Enrollment and Unwinding Tracker | KFF](#)

2026-2027 SNAP and AHCCCS Proposed Action Plan

- The 2026-27 SNAP and AHCCCS Proposed Action Plan outlines the goals, strategies, and tactics guiding Pima County's coordinated response.
- The first workgroup meeting is scheduled for June 19th
- The health department is anticipating the coordination of a countywide response to:
 1. Preserve Access to Healthcare Coverage
 2. Reduce Food Insecurity and Maintain Access to Nutrition
 3. Prevent Future Gaps in Food Security and Healthcare Access

Action Plan Highlights

Expand Enrollment Assistance

- Health-e-Arizona Plus support
- Clinic-based assistance

Develop Navigation Resources

- Multilingual materials
- Plain-language support
- Community Facing tools

Build Referral Pathways

- Clinical Screenings
- Food insecurity referrals
- Community resource navigation

Goal 1: Preserve Access to Healthcare Coverage

2026-2027 SNAP and AHCCCS Action Plan

- **Strategy 1.1:** Support streamlined ahcccs redetermination processes at the state level.
- **Strategy 1.2:** Analyze AHCCCS disenrollment trends and identify high-risk populations.
- **Strategy 1.3:** Provide navigation and renewal assistance for AHCCCS enrollees.
- **Strategy 1.4:** Reduce ACA marketplace coverage loss and support seamless transitions from AHCCCS.

Goal 2: Reduce Food Insecurity and Maintain Access to Nutrition

2026-2027 SNAP and AHCCCS Action Plan

- **Strategy 2.1:** Advocate for local and state flexibility in SNAP eligibility requirements.
- **Strategy 2.2:** Monitor Food Insecurity Trends and SNAP Participation Rates.
- **Strategy 2.3:** Expand Outreach and Enrollment Assistance for SNAP Alternatives and Emergency Food Programs.

Goal 3: Prevent Future Gaps in Food Security and Healthcare Access

2026-2027 SNAP and AHCCCS Action Plan

- **Strategy 3.1:** Advance Immediate, Medium-Term, and Long-Term Policy Solutions to Strengthen System Readiness.
- **Strategy 3.2:** Connect Clients to Food Assistance, Healthcare Resources, Work and Volunteer Opportunities, and Social Support Services.
- **Strategy 3.3:** Prepare for Long-Term System Readiness Through Planning and Infrastructure Development.

Action Plan: March 2026-March 2027

Phase 1 Project Initiation Mar.-Jun. 2026	Phase 2 Planning June-Sep. 2026	Phase 3 Execution Oct. 2026-Mar. 2027	Phase 4 Evaluation, Adaptation, And Systems Integration Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define responsibilities• Identify operational gaps• Assess workflows• Engage stakeholders• Build monitoring systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop workflows• Draft materials• Establish reporting systems• Prepare partners and internal teams for upcoming federal policy changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support implementation of federal changes• Maintain navigation and enrollment support• Respond to emerging challenges• Stabilize systems as policy changes take effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate outcomes• Identify sustainable infrastructure• Integrate lessons learned into ongoing operations• Ensure long term operational sustainability

What the Board Can Expect

Quarterly Updates

Trend Monitoring

- Enrollment
- Disenrollment
- Emerging Risks

Policy Recommendations

- State flexibility opportunities
- Administrative burden reduction strategies

Community Impact Reports

- Navigation outcomes
- Partner engagement
- Equity impacts



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Questions?